



IMPACT!

AUGUST 2009

NEWSLETTER OF THE WELLINGTON PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY
www.wps.org.nz



*Cover image: "Pacific Dances" by Jenny O'Connor
Silver medal, Double Take section, North Shore Salon*

Pres sez

Hello everyone

We have the AGM on the 11 August, so it's the end of one era and the beginning of another as we change committee. I've just written my President's Report so have been reflecting on the past 10 months of activity. I think most will agree that we've packed a lot into the last 10 months. Looking back we seem to have been in top gear ever since the new committee was elected last September and there hasn't been much time for a breather since. The membership is the strongest it has been for many years, the finances are in very good shape and there is a general air of energy and enthusiasm amongst the members. This doesn't happen by accident. This is a very active club and it takes a tremendous amount of hard work behind the scenes to keep such a full programme running for 11 months of the year.

Everyone on this year's committee has brought a unique set of skills and talent to the their role. Without exception, they have worked at capacity, somehow fitting in three nights a month around family and work commitments, to attend meetings plus many additional hours to do what needed to be done. By the end of 2009, we will have presented 25 scheduled events including:

- *five external photographers presenting their work*
- *seven sessions that involved WPS members showing their work*
- *two gallery owners who looked at photography from an art perspective*
- *three events with invited judges who provided feedback on members' work*
- *one workshop on self-critique of photographs*
- *one workshop looking at emotional responses to photographs*
- *one session on getting the most out of photographic equipment*
- *a keynote weekend with evening seminar and one-day workshop*
- *the annual exhibition*
- *the annual Inter-Club Battle*
- *Christmas social evening*

As well as that, we've had a constitutional change and participated in a number of external competitions. I'll talk about these in more detail at the AGM but I wanted to take this opportunity to thank the outgoing committee on behalf of the wider membership – you have done an amazing job. 2010 will bring with it changes and challenges and I'm looking forward to working with the new committee to bring you another year of interesting and rewarding activity.

Jenny O'Connor

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What's on in August

AGM & Lighting – Simon Woolf

- **7.30pm, Tuesday, 11 August**
The Arts Centre, 61-69 Abel Smith St

Without it your photography just wouldn't happen! It's the essence of how the art and craft of photography can occur. It resolves itself in infinite forms. It is ever evolving, and it's how we, as photographers, capture its intricacies, which enables us to capture our images. It is LIGHT.

On August 11, Simon will aim to give some insights as to how light is captured, shaped, and conjured into a form that it can be used to assist our imagemaking. Photography is the skill and art of seeing, while lighting, with the camera is the most important tool. It's what's six inches behind the camera that helps gain an understanding of how light can be tamed, and used, in a way that can assist the way we communicate through our photography.

Some of the LIGHTING techniques Simon will be demonstrating will be the use of:

- available light
- on- and off-camera flash
- studio flash
- reflected light
- bounced light
- diffused light
- simple cost effective additional lighting
- plus a few other useful lighting techniques.



"Gone fishing"
by Grant Newton
HC, Open section,
WPS Annual Print
Competition

It would be helpful if members could bring along a light source to our meeting, and be prepared to participate, and be involved in the second portion of the session, which will be interactive. The aim is to learn a little more about LIGHT and have fun in the process.

Before Simon's talk, we will have our **Annual General Meeting**. A notice of the meeting has been sent to members separately.

Wellington Interclub Print Battle

- **7.30pm, Tuesday, 18 August**
Te Wananga O Aotearoa, Heriot Drive, Porirua

This is the annual print competition between the five Greater Wellington photographic clubs, hosted this year by the Kapiti Camera Club. It's a fun, social evening, with a supper at the completion of the battle. WPS has had a really good run in recent print battles – 1st in 2008, 2nd in 2007, 1st in 2006, 2nd in 2005 and 2nd in 2004, so fingers crossed.

The following members had their prints voted by the membership to represent WPS:

1. Rivers and/or water – Fred Wotton
2. Weather – Dave Arthur
3. Cats and/or dogs – Catherine Cattanach
4. Natural – Grant Newton
5. Illusion – Dave Arthur
6. Wires and wood – Russ Finnerty
7. Friends – Ross Collins
8. Exposed – Grant Newton
9. Oops – Maria Meilink
10. Yummy – Fred Wotton

The venue is opposite North City Plaza. From the motorway, head across the Mungavin Bridge and go straight through the first roundabout. At the second roundabout turn left into Todd/Central Park, then keep going left to the building (past a building on your right). If you are after a ride or you can take other members with you, please e-mail Catherine on cattanach@clear.net.nz and she'll put you in touch with others.

Digital magic – Kevin Cook

- **7.30pm, Tuesday, 25 August**
The Arts Centre, 61-69 Abel Smith St

The evening will be a bit of hocus pocus a look into reflections, mirrors and illusions created by digital manipulation, effects and filters. This is from Kevin's perspective, experience and observations over the last few years in the magic

world of digital manipulation and imagery. It will be light hearted, informal and a bit of fun hopefully with a few how-to-do's, tips, Q & A session and images to view, perhaps a few surprises too.

What's on in September

Exhibiting – lifting the bar – David Alsop

- 7.30pm, Tuesday, 8 September
The Arts Centre, 61-69 Abel Smith St

David Alsop owns and operates Suite Gallery in Newtown. Suite exhibits works by leading contemporary artists and often shows photographic works by highly acclaimed national and international photographers. David will talk about the world of art and why some works are acclaimed as leading edge and others are not. He will bring examples of photographs that sell for tens of thousands of dollars – come and take a look and see what you think.



“Watching”
by Catherine Cattnach
HC, Open section,
WPS Annual Print
Competition

The WPS Generation Game

- 7.30pm, Tuesday, 23 September
The Arts Centre, 61-69 Abel Smith St

Does age matter? Come along and see the work of six of our members who represent different generations – under 50 is considered “young” – over 50 is considered “mature” – no offence to be taken please. We have chosen people who have found their own voice in their work and paired them up so that there is a common thread across their work. Each person will talk about their approach and you can make up your own mind whether or not age does make a difference.

WPS news and information

New members

WPS welcomes the following new members: **Kay and Glenn Hopkins**, **Carol Anderson**, **Gayle Cullwick** and **Mike Perry**.

Congratulations to ...

... the following members whose images were selected by PSNZ to represent New Zealand in the inaugural 4 Nations Competition 2009: **Jenny O'Connor** (*Central Park*), **Camus Wyatt** (*Dragonfly, Two birds - Makara Beach*), **Catherine Cattnach** (*Eva, Porcelain*), **Grant Newton** (*Fallen fern*), **John Boyd** (*Textures, Wistful*). One hundred images were selected from 240 images submitted by 91 photographers. Only nine photographers achieved two acceptances and three of them are WPS members.

... the following members who had images accepted for the Laurie Thomas Landscape Salon: **Catherine Cattnach** (*The overseer*) and **Jenny O'Connor** (*Otago*).

... **Catherine Cattnach**, whose image *Porcelain* was selected for the PSNZ entry for the 2009 Trans Tasman competition.

... **Natalia Campbell**, whose image *Mary Poppins* was the winner of *D-Photo* magazine's D-Kids competition (see the August/September issue).

... **Grant Newton**, who came first, and **Russ Finnerty**, who came second, in the competition run by Adventure Travel.

WPS Annual Exhibition – mentors available

As previously advised, this year's Annual Exhibition will be held at the Michael Fowler Centre from Friday, 30 October, to Tuesday, 10 November. To help members prepare for the exhibition, we have arranged for some mentors to be available for advice and guidance regarding preparing, selecting and finishing of images to be submitted for the exhibition selection process. The mentors will be available from 7:00pm before our normal August meetings (the 11th and 25th).

Reinvigorating the Digital Darkroom SIG

The current Digital Darkroom Special Interest Group is looking to reinvigorate itself and is also looking for new members. We're potentially after a new name (is it Digital Darkroom, Digital Lightroom, Digital Editing and Printing?). In the last few months, the group has been looking at a variety of post exposure techniques and printing skills in the digital era, including:



*Untitled image
by Peter Rodgers
HC, Open section,
WPS Annual Print
Competition*

- printing neutral B&W prints (i.e. without tone or colour cast)
- lossless processing of images
- printing on different papers and evaluation of results
- different approaches to conversion of colour images to B&W images to provoke different moods
- printing high key and low key images
- getting the most detail out of B&W images
- digital dodging and burning, layer masks, etc.

Most focus to date has been on the printing of B&W images. We're now looking for new ideas to make the group more rewarding and interesting, while appealing to a wider group of club members. It's a great way to learn from others, while also offering new challenges to improve our skills and ultimately produce better images.

If you're keen to get involved please send an e-mail to grant.newton@actrix.co.nz or ring Grant Newton on 232 6787.

Photographic news and information

Seminar: "How to gain and edge in competitions"

From Simon Woolf: OK, so you wish to do well in competitions, selections, and exhibitions. Well "Woolf's Workshop" is hosting an intensive day-long event to help you out. Limited to 15 participants. Make the most of Master Photographer Simon Woolf's vast experience as a selector, educator and entrant. This day seminar will change your whole perception as to what the prerequisites are for gaining an edge with your photography. It will be educational and fun, and you will head home inspired and enthused. There are no absolute guarantees that this day seminar will win you awards and accolades, however the day will give you a new set of skills to help you out, and be in the race for photographic success. The investment is \$135.00 Other details are on my website www.woolf.co.nz. Date: 16 August.

Judging seminar

The judging seminar on 23 August is now full and, due to the interest and numbers, is now being held at The Te Rauparahau Centre in Porirua. If anyone would like to attend, they may like to go on the cancellation list, and can contact Simon Woolf or Fred Wotton to be placed on the list.

2009 PSNZ Central Regional Convention

This year's PSNZ Central Regional Convention will be at the Silverstream Retreat, Silverstream, Upper Hutt from 30 October to 1 November. It will be the

only regional to be held in the North Island this year. There is a full programme with something for everyone and then some. Workshops, speakers, field trips, entertainment, photo opportunities galore. Early-bird registrations are now being accepted online or via post (form can be downloaded from the website, or you can ask the Impact editor for a copy). The early-bird discount is available until 31 August. Some workshops have limited numbers and will be placed on a first in first-served basis. See: www.get-a-grip.co.nz for more details.



*“Storm front”
by Grant Newton
HC, Open section,
WPS Annual Print
Competition*

InFocus Conference

InFocus, organised by the New Zealand Institute of Professional Photography, encompasses the annual Epson/NZIPP Iris Professional Photography Awards, the InFocus conference and an industry trade show. The venue is the InterContinental Hotel, Wellington.

The judging for the awards is “open-forum” judging, which is open to the public to hear the judges commenting on the work – a great opportunity for learning. The judging takes place over the period 20-22 August. As each print award category is judged, the winning prints are put out on display

creating a complete exhibition of all award-winning prints. In addition, the 2008 awards will be on display, featuring more than 130 images.

The trade display takes place over the same period, 20-22 August, and the conference is on 23-24 August. Speakers include Yervant Zanazanian, Rob Imhoff, Karim Sahai, Nick Servian, John Crawford, Tony Whincup. On 25 August, there are InFocus Masterclasses, featuring Yervant Zanazanian and Rob Imhoff. For more information visit the NZIPP's website: www.nzipp.org.nz

Barrett's blue print boxes

The latest version of this print box has grey reinforcing strips along each side of the lid. Unfortunately these strips are not permanently secured and the strip can easily become detached and lost when in the postal system.

Fred Wotton has a heavy duty stapler which can secure these reinforcing strips, and he will bring it along to the meetings on 11 August and 25 August, should any member have a case with grey reinforcing strips which they would like to be more permanently secured. Anyone wanting the reinforcing strips stapled please hand their print case to Fred by 7.20pm so that the strips can be secured before the meeting commences.

Competitions

2009 Harry Williams Astrophotography Competition

As part of the International Year of Astronomy 2009, the Auckland Astronomical Society invites entries for the 2009 Harry Williams Astrophotography Competition.

- Competition categories are as follows:
 1. Solar system – Sun, moon, planets, comets, asteroids, dwarf planets, auroras, meteors, etc.
 2. Deep sky – Nebulae, galaxies, globular and open clusters, deep space objects, etc.
 3. Miscellaneous – Artistic and interesting subjects with an astronomical theme, including wide field images, artificial satellites, star trails, star parties, etc.
- Entry forms and conditions available on www.astronomy.org.nz
- Closes: Friday 16 October 2009.

2009 Central Regional Interclub Competition and Salon

As part of this year's Epson/PSNZ Central Regional Convention, there will be a salon (competition) for individuals as well as a Central Regional Interclub competition.

Central Regional Interclub

The Interclub competition is for eight individual digital images from each club in the PSNZ Central Region, and six individual prints per club. We are therefore asking members to submit up to six of their best prints (any subject) and up to four of their best digital images (again, any subject) for selection in the WPS entry. We can select a maximum of one image per member for each section.

The images do not have to work together as a set: they will be judged on individual merit, but do need to show diversity. We usually get lots of digital contributions but not many prints, so please do consider bringing along prints of your best photos - they can be small, loose prints at this stage, so it shouldn't be too much hassle.

Images that were selected for the competition in any previous year are ineligible.

Entries for consideration for selection close at 7pm on 11 August 2009.

Digital:

- Enter your digital photographs by sending them in reply to either of the two emails sent to all members on 31 July and repeated on 7 August. Please e-mail no more than four images per person.
- Images will be projected when judged on a screen with a 4:3 ratio on a black background and can be vertical or landscape format.
- Images must be a JPEG file, 72dpi and no more than 1024 pixels on the horizontal side and 768 on the vertical side. It is recommended, but not essential, that images be saved in the sRGB colour space.
- Digital images shall have been exposed by the author, and any manipulation of the images should be done by the author or at their specific direction. Composite images shall contain only original work.
- Please ensure you put the title and the photographer's name on each individual entry, e.g. Porcelain by Catherine Cattanaach.jpg.

Prints:

- Enter your prints (no more than six) by bringing them along to a WPS members' night up to and including 11 August, or by leaving them at Wellington Photographic Supplies up to 5pm on 11 August. If you leave them at WPS, you must call Catherine (389 2241) to tell her.
- Loose or mounted prints of any size 6x4" or above can be submitted for consideration, but they must have the necessary resolution to be enlarged later to at least 8x10" if they are selected for the WPS entry. If they are selected, the author is responsible for enlarging, but WPS will provide the mats and mounts.
- Prints must not be under glass or framed.

Central Regional Salon

Images will be accepted only from delegates registered for the Central Regional Convention in Lower Hutt, 30 October - 1 November 2009. One image per person can be entered in each of the four categories: Open Print, Open Projected, Nature Print, Nature Projected. Images gaining acceptance or better will be displayed at the convention. Closing date for entries: 11 September 2009. Details and entry forms on www.get-a-grip.co.nz/salon.htm

Iford Shield competition for secondary school students

The 2009 Iford Shield Photographic Competition is open to all full-time secondary school students throughout New Zealand and has generous prizes including study sponsorship. The closing date is 15 August 2009. Details and entry forms on www.photography.org.nz



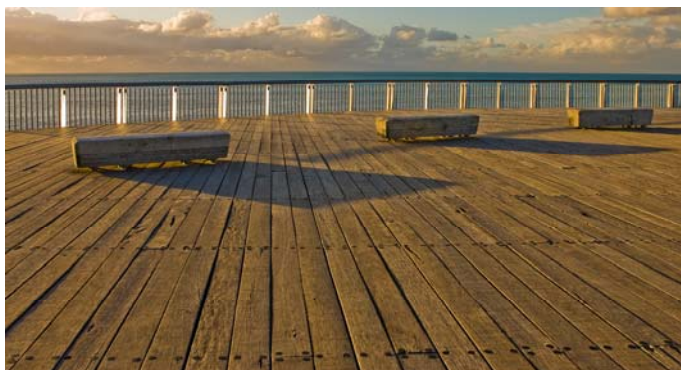
"Lucy"
by Mark Berger
HC, Digital Open
Monochrome section,
North Shore Salon

There are two categories:

- Class A: Open; any subject, black and white only
- Class B: Digital Creative Effects; any subject, colour or black and white.

PSNZ/Ray Barlin Award – a photographic competition for under-25s

The PSNZ/Ray Barlin Award is a national photographic competition open to all photographers aged under 25 at the closing date.



*“The lookout”
by Ross Collins
HC, Open Colour Prints
section, North Shore
Salon*

- No entry fee
- Enter up to three unmatted prints, maximum size 20x30cm
- Open Category – colour or monochrome images
- First prize: \$250 book voucher; second prize: \$150 book voucher; third prize: \$100 book voucher

The closing date is 29 August 2009. For more details see the PSNZ website: www.photography.org.nz

PSNZ Canon Bi-monthly Online Competition

The Canon Online bi-monthly competition is open to PSNZ or club members to submit images in digital format. Images are to be sent bi-monthly by the end of February, April, June, August, October and December, i.e. six entries per author a year. Each author will receive one point for entering. The top ten images will receive the following points plus the one for entering: first place 10, second 9, third 8, fourth 7, fifth 6, sixth 5, seventh 4, eighth 3, ninth 2, tenth 1. At the end of December, the author who has received the most points over the year will be the Canon PSNZ Internet Photographer of the Year and will receive the award from Canon at our annual Conference. The winner of each round will also receive a trophy. For full details, see: www.photography.org.nz/canon_online_rules.htm

Exhibitions and shows

Three Portfolios – Mark Richter

- **17 July - 8 August 2009**
Photospace, 1st floor, 37 Courtenay Place

Since 2005, Mark Richter has been regularly photographing Central Otago and the Mackenzie Country. In 2007, Richter visited Berlin's Holocaust Memorial, a deeply moving experience that had a profound effect on him. His current exhibition features three series; two from New Zealand and one from Berlin..

A shot in the dark – Brian Smith

- **3 - 28 August 2009**
Tactics, Level 1, 241 Thorndon Quay

Black and white landscape photographs. The exhibition is open from 9am to 5pm, Monday – Friday, and on Sunday, 16 August from 11am to 1pm.

The vault (part 4) – Neil Pardington

- **29 July - 29 August 2009**
Suite, 69 Owen Street, Newtown

Interior images in various storehouses. According to Pardington: “This idea of the camera being a storehouse of ideas and images (or as Kodak would have it,

memories) is central to *The vault*. In a somewhat reflexive manner, this series focuses on the places we store those things that are most precious to us, and conversely those very similar spaces we store the obsolete and unwanted. In the process of making the work I have visited archives, museums, art galleries, banks and libraries.”

Alt: Contemporary Photographers Explore Alternative Processes

- **1 August - 31 August 2009**
Photospace, 1st floor, 37 Courtenay Place

Featuring the work of: Richard Shepherd, Ryan Jellyman, Caroline McQuarrie, Jonathan Kay, Bonny Stewart-McDonald, Olivia Taylor, Shaun Matthews, Rochelle Giles, Andrea Bednarek, Andrew Beck, Deidra Sullivan, Monique MacFarlane, Michelle Aitken. The artists are Massey University Wellington Campus fine arts and photography students and lecturers.

Quest – Pippa Sanderson

- **14 August - 12 September 2009**
Photospace, 1st floor, 37 Courtenay Place

Photographs taken on outdated Polaroid film explore the realm of the spiritual and supernatural.

Champions: New Zealand winners – Jessie Casson

- **2 May – 13 September 2009**
TheNewDowse, 45 Laings Rd. Lower Hutt

Photographer Jessie Casson spent the summer of 2007-08 travelling from Auckland to Bluff and back again, in a caravan with her husband Matt and son Dylan. Casson was on a mission to photograph and interview local heroes for a book project. From an award-winning Rose Grower to a Rodeo Cowboy and a 'Universe'-straddling drag queen, individuals from all over New Zealand are brought together in a loving tribute to the unsung Kiwi achiever. Although rarely publicised outside their home towns, each winner is testament to the passion and determination of the people of Aotearoa.

Competition calendar

Some of these dates are subject to confirmation and might change. This calendar will be regularly updated for each issue of *Impact*.

11 August	Entries close for WPS selection for Central Regional Inter-Club Competition (prints/digital)
15 August	Entries close for the Ilford Shield competition for secondary school students
18 August	Wellington Inter-Club Print Battle
29 August	Entries close for the PSNZ/Ray Barlin Award, a photographic competition for under-25s
31 August	Entries close for round 4 of Canon Online competition closes
11 September	Entries close for the Central Regional Salon
22 September	Entries close for WPS Annual Exhibition (<i>Note: changed date</i>)
13 October	WPS Annual Exhibition selection (<i>Note: changed date</i>)
16 October	Entries close for Harry Williams Astrophotography Competition
31 October	Entries close for round 5 of Canon Online competition closes
31 December	Entries close for round 6 of Canon Online competition closes