

Wairarapa Camera Club



Old Buildings Winning Print

"Life In The Ruins"

By Nik Player

Sep 2010



Calendar

12 Sep NZ Conservation Week 12-19 Sep.
Holdsworth Lodge Open Day from 10am-2pm.
Tour newly renovated Holdsworth Lodge, join
Chris Peterson for short walks and billy tea
(weather permitting).

25 Sept. Stonehenge Spring Equinox – 5.30pm,
Adults \$40, children \$20. Bookings Essential
phone 06 377 1600

2 - 3 Oct Official Opening of the new Wairarapa
Wine Centre, Greytown.

29 - 31 Oct PSNZ Central & Northern
Conventions. Tatum Park, Levin & Rydges
Harbour, Auckland.

Letter From The Vice President

Hi to all members...

PSNZ are holding their Northern and Central conventions at the end of next month. I would thoroughly recommend attending one of these if possible. The central convention is in Levin so not far to go. Details are on their website here <http://www.photography.org.nz/events>

This weeks useful website link is <http://1x.com> This website showcases some of the best photography on the internet. It is a great source of inspiration and covers all genres of the art.

We will be holding our committee meeting at the end of the month and we will be discussing the club's plans for next year. I'm hoping to add more workshops to the agenda. I will also plan some for the summer break so we don't get rusty !

Regards *Nik*



Old Buildings - Winning Projected Image
"Painted Station"
By Nik Player

Prints

Old Building	Jacquey Barber	C
Abandoned	Sid Hayes	M
The Old and Then New	Sid Hayes	M
Old Shed and Treasure	Sid Hayes	HC
Majestic Decay	Sid Hayes	M
Wesley Methodist Church	Mike Buck	C
New Forest Pufumery	Mike Buck	M
St Leonard's Hospital	Mike Buck	M
4 Rue de la Chapelle	Tim McMahon	M
Old Farm Building	Tim McMahon	HC
St Peters by Evening	Tim McMahon	C
Twilight Flight	Tim McMahon	H
Wrong Tree For The Front	Alan Portman	M
The Mural Lives	Alan Portman	M
Meals Over	Alan Portman	M
Engine Repairs No More	Alan Portman	M
Old Crusher Building	Barry Baxter	M
Boatshed	Barry Baxter	A
Sheds Carterton	Ken Melvill-Thomson	C
Catholic Church Carterton	Ken Melvill-Thomson	C
Old House Waipawa	Ken Melvill-Thomson	C
Tree House	Kay Halligan	M
Westcoast Woolshed	Jim Graydon	HC
Old Timer	Les Wong	C
Factory Days of Old	Les Wong	H
Homeless	Les Wong	HC
Unwanted	Les Wong	M
Resisting Time	Lorraine Garrity	M
Welcome Home	Lorraine Garrity	M
Many Generations	Lorraine Garrity	M
Old Faithful	Lorraine Garrity	M
Life in the Ruins	Nik Player	H - Winner
A Brighter Past	Nik Player	C
The Bird House	Nik Player	HC
Seen Better Days	Nik Player	C

Projected Images

Church	Kevin Morgan	HC
Denniston	Kevin Morgan	C
Ettamogah Pub	Kevin Morgan	C
Kahutara House	Kevin Morgan	HC
Asbestos Cottage	Glenys Robertson	C
Chaffey's Hut	Glenys Robertson	M
Abandoned	Kay Halligan	HC
Bluebird	Kay Halligan	C
Derelect	Kay Halligan	M
Taj Mahal #1	Jim Graydon	C
Taj Mahal #2	Jim Graydon	HC
Atiawhakatu Hut Tararua	Kevin Hooper	C
Behind The Terrace	Kevin Hooper	M
Wellington Somewhere	Kevin Hooper	HC
Starling House	Bruce Levy	M
The Boat Sheds	Bruce Levy	M
The Villa	Bruce Levy	C
The Way of the Cross	Bruce Levy	M
Against The Elements	Nik Player	M
Old Beacon	Nik Player	HC
Painted Station	Nik Player	H - Winner
Secret Tunnel	Nik Player	M
Brightfields	Janette Falleni	M
No One Home	Janette Falleni	C
Old Mill	Karen McCosh	M
Red House	Karen McCosh	HC
Run Down	Karen McCosh	M
Sunrise Lit	Karen McCosh	HC
Carterton Rail Station	Lorraine Garrity	C
Chinese History	Lorraine Garrity	M
Forgotten	Lorraine Garrity	C
Grand Old Lady	Lorraine Garrity	C
An Ear Two The Door	Charmaine Reay	M
Hard Hat	Charmaine Reay	A
Knight and Day	Charmaine Reay	M
No Entry Gervy Chamberlain	Tim McMahon	HC
Pub With No Berr Bendigo	Tim McMahon	C
St Pauls at Coffee Time Hamilton	Tim McMahon	M
Time Rolls By Norfolk Foad	Tim McMahon	HC
Cook's Tour	Miles Reay	M
Going Down To Liverpool	Miles Reay	M
London Calling	Miles Reay	C
No Castle in This Coombe	Miles Reay	M

Club Info

To learn more about photography, to share your skills and experience or simply to enjoy photographic time with like-minded people, come to a meeting or contact us at

info@wairarapacameraclub.org

Meetings start at 7:30 pm on the first Tuesday of every month from February to November, at the Education Centre next to Parkview Motors in Dixon Street, Masterton.

WCC, PO BOX 502, Masterton

www.wairarapacameraclub.org

All questions, submissions and general information regarding this newsletter should be made to the Editor, Nik Player.

nikplayer@me.com

1 Point	A	Accepted
2 Points	C	Commended
3 Points	M	Merit
4 Points	HC	Highly Commended
5 Points	H	Honours

I thought I would share with you the post processing techniques I used on one of my competition entries

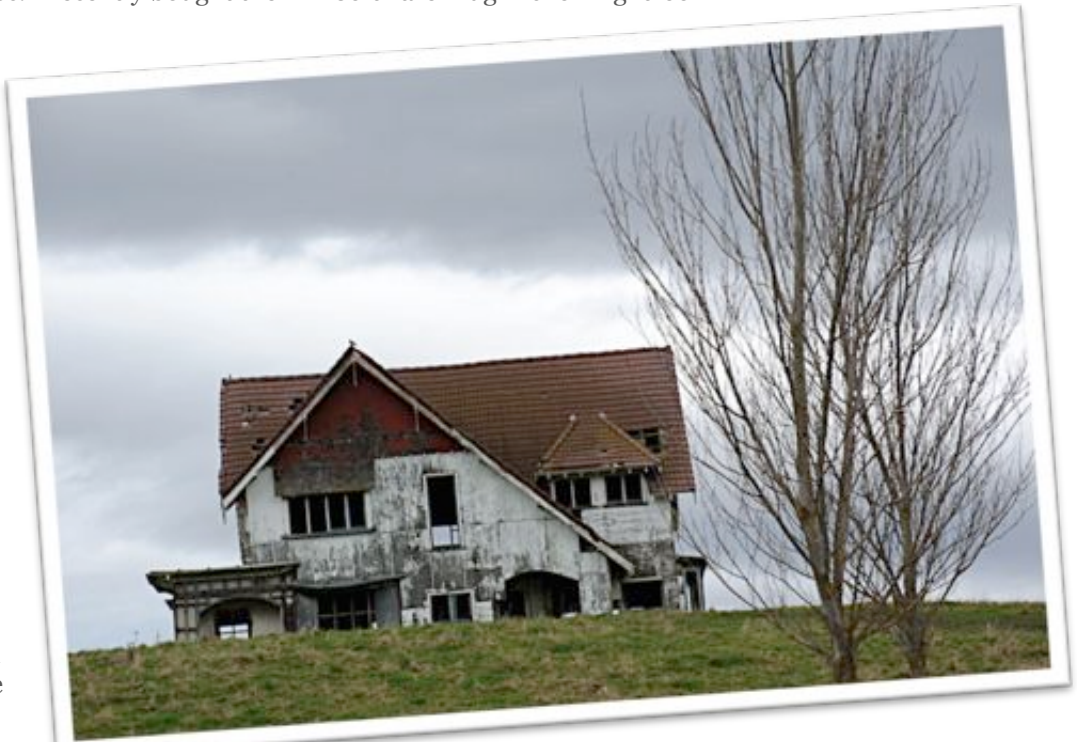
Before & After

First a bit about the software tools I use: I use Adobe Lightroom 3 to manage and process my photographs. I also use Photoshop CS4 on rare occasions, normally just to process panoramas. I have the Photomatrix Pro Plug-In for Lightroom to create my HDR photos. I recently bought the Nik Software Plug-ins for Lightroom but I haven't used them much yet.

The Capture: I took the photo with a zoom lens at 165mm because I didn't want to intrude onto the farmers property. This has the added bonus of compressing the depth of the objects in the image, the trees on the right look quite close to the house but were in fact just in front of me. I used an Aperture setting of F10 so that the trees were in soft focus but not completely blurred out. I used Aperture Priority and let the camera set the shutter speed which was 1/160th of a second. I held the camera on a fence post to keep it stable. It was a pretty dark, overcast day so I didn't need to dial in any exposure compensation (EV) the matrix metering in the camera did a good job.

Post Processing: The first change I made was to crop the image so that the house was more dominant in the photo, I should have probably zoomed in a bit closer really. Next I apply lens correction to take out any distortion (there isn't that much at 165mm on this lens anyway). I then added some "Fill Light" which opens up the shadow areas. I adjusted the "White Balance" to bring a blue hue into the sky and also boosted the blue saturation and the red saturation. Next up was the "Clarity" slider to give punch and detail to the image. Finally I adjusted the overall contrast, saturation and brightness of the image.

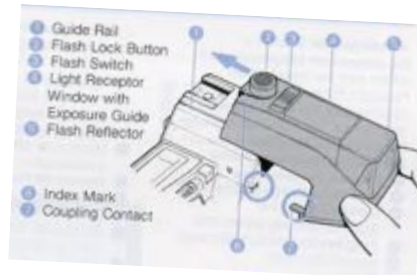
The overall effect gives quite a surreal feel to the image which is what I was aiming for. I was thinking of the "dodgy b-movie horror flick look" when I started out. Getting colour and contrast into the boring grey sky makes a huge difference to photos like this. The contrast of the red and blue also bring some liveliness in.



Photography Tips

“RTFM”

This month I'm going to make a simple suggestion that will improve your photography and cost you nothing but a little time and concentration.



When you first bought your camera it came in a big shiny box that contained a big black camera, a collection of plastic clips n things that nobody knows what

to do with and bunch of stuff wrapped in plastic bags that require the skills of young children to open with their teeth. Somewhere in the bottom of the box is also a thick white book with the words “USER MANUAL” on it. Go and check now, I bet its still there...

Take the manual out and have flick through. If your lucky it will be in several languages and you can breath a sigh of relief that most of the inch-thick book is not relevant to you. You could be unlucky like me and find that the inch-think 800 page manual is entirely English and written in text smaller than a Gideon's travel Bible.

These manuals are written by people that have very little contact with other humans and rarely get to feel the sun on their skin. They should be prescribed by doctors as an alternative medicine to treat insomnia. But...

they do contain information that you need to know to be able to make your photographs better.

The user manual is not a riveting read, you can't sit down and romp through it and expect to remember everything you have read. You have to learn how to read the manual to learn how to use your camera. Think I'm joking ? Then check out the Nikon website, they have an article that actually explains how you should tackle the User Manual. The link is here <http://bit.ly/91GQHp>

