

Camera Club News

Letter From The President

Hello All

The *Run of the Ruamahanga Exhibition* has now finished at Aratoi.

The feedback has been very positive. We got a couple of good mentions in the local paper and, according to the staff at Aratoi, compliments from many people who looked at the photos. Once again, well done to everyone who submitted images whether they made the printed 30, or not.

Three of the photographs were bought. Well done Franz who had *two* of his shots 'snapped up'!

We are investigating a couple of other venues to hang the remaining photos for a while. I'll let you know as soon as anything is confirmed.

As you know, we're now thinking about next year's programme. Thanks to those who've returned the questionnaire: it will be a full year if everyone gets what they want!

It would probably be too much to mount another exhibition in 2013. Instead we should look forward to 2014. However, it would be good to decide as soon as possible on a probable theme for our next exhibition so that we will have more time to plan and shoot images that might fit. We'll keep you posted.

This year we're keen to keep improving our communication with members, and to make the best possible use of this newsletter, and also our web site.

One thing I want to know is whether members would prefer to view this newsletter online through the web site, or whether you are happy to receive it directly via email. Nik tells me that it was decided not to send the newsletter by email because it used up too much data (and took too much time) on people's internet connections.

If internet connection speed and data limits are still an issue we will return to web-only distribution of the newsletter.

Tim

Club Information

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





Competition: Music

The music competition was a resounding success! It resulted in some exceptionally creative photography and beautiful images. Congratulations to Glenys, John, and Martin all of whom were awarded Honours, and to everyone who contributed to making this a very entertaining competition.

The judge, Barbara Roydhouse, was highly complimentary about the overall standard, and she used a number of the images to highlight very useful comments about the effective, and not so effective, use of colour in compositions and how clever use of 'negative space' and physical or implied lines in the main subject and in the background can enhance compositions. Barbara's comments were very helpful and were well received.



WINNING PROJECTED IMAGE

"IMG_6039" By John Rhodes



WINNING PRINT

"Africa at WOMAD" By Glenys Robertson.

Barbara was particularly complimentary about Glenys had used negative space — the black space surrounding the singer — to add visual interest in terms of the dark shapes, and to emphasise by contrast, the main subject, in this image.

**Prints**

Martin Connelly	Romance	M	
Martin Connelly	Minuet	M	
Franz Marwitz	Ukelele	M	
Franz Marwitz	Strauss, Still Playing	HC	
Jazell Wilkie	Hand, String, Rhythm and Time	C	
Jazell Wilkie	In Tune With Memories	C	
Sid Hayes	Candle Minuet	C	
Carolyn Smith	RNZAF Band, Ohakea	A	
Carolyn Smith	Guitar Hero	M	
Glenys Robertson	Let The Journey Begin	C	
Glenys Robertson	Africa at WOMAD	H	Winner
Tim McMahon	Soul Singer	HC	
Tim McMahon	Air On An E String	HC	
Sid Hayes	Kiwi Crowd Control	A	

Projected Images

Glenys Robertson	Drum Circle	C	
Glenys Robertson	The Drummers of Burundi	HC	
Kay Halligan	Aleah Loves to play on her Guitar	C	
Kay Halligan	Making Music	C	
John Rhodes	Clarinetist	HC	
John Rhodes	IMG_6039	H	Winner
Bruce Levy	Before Amplifiers	HC	
Bruce Levy	Tat	A	
Nik Player	Black Country Axe	M	
Nik Player	Rock Blast	M	
Tim McMahon	The Times They Are A'Changing	M	
Barry Baxter	Feelin the blues	C	
Martin Connelly	Busker	H	
Martin Connelly	Camelia	M	
Carolyn Smith	Musical Mosaics	M	
Carolyn Smith	Musical Notes	M	
Franz Marwitz	Louis Armstrong	A	
Franz Marwitz	Playing the Capriccio	HC	

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



Rule Changes

Thanks to everyone who supported the rule changes, and thanks to the committee for the work in getting them into shape so quickly. The updated rules need to be lodged with the Incorporated Societies Office and then we'll put them up on the website.

Competitions and Judging

I was interested in a comment by an awarding winning amateur photographer, Evan McBride, quoted in the latest issue of D-Photo. Here are some snippets from what he wrote about why he enters competitions:

... Competition judges bring their own tastes and opinions to a competition; if you are successful the judges have done nothing more than select an image they like. You may well find that friends, family, and fellow photographers, and certainly future judges, may not have the same enthusiasm for the image. ...

I have found that entering awards is an extremely valuable process for improving my work. ... it makes you take seriously the process of critiquing your own work and selecting images to submit.

You do need to learn to step back ... and ask: What makes this image special? What grabs your attention and makes it work? ... This process of evaluating has helped me immensely.

I find these ideas interesting. On the one hand, they reinforce my view that the point of the competitions is to keep learning: by reflecting on the judges comments on your own and others' photos. Hopefully, what we learn makes a difference when we're selecting and preparing images and, even better, when we're taking the original photograph! On the other there's just a hint that he thinks judging is entirely capricious. It shouldn't be.

With that in mind, one thing we hope to do in the coming year, whether we have the same number of competitions or not, is to make sure that everyone knows what judges have been asked to look for. While we cannot, and wouldn't want to, influence judges' personal tastes, we should be able to expect that all judges will approach the task in the same way and applying the same kinds of weightings to aesthetic, versus technical, versus presentational criteria. With this in mind, we have been thinking again about Bruce Girdwood's presentation last year (Issue 22, October 2011) and wondering about adopting something along those lines as our club mantra for judging competitions. Any thoughts? Feel free to email!

WCC Oscars

The annual end of year dinner and 'award ceremony' is to be held on the evening of Wednesday 21 November. Mark this in your diary now, before other Xmas 'do's creep in! We'll let you know about the venue and menu in the next newsletter.

Syllabus for next year

Thanks to those of you who returned the email about ideas for next year's programme. If you haven't done so yet, please take the time to respond. We would like our syllabus to reflect what members value most in belonging to the club, rather than to inflicting a range of activities (or lack of activities) that represent the interests of only a few. My inbox has room for another 20 or so responses!

Next Month's competition

Don't forget next month's competition: **National Bank Open**. No set theme for "the Open". Images must tell their own story. Entries due in by Wednesday 26th September.