

Camera Club News

Letter From The President

Hello All

2013 is well underway. The first competition has been and gone; there is a workshop next week; and everyone should have their shots in the can for the next competition. (Note to self — must get out and make some “Doors, Windows, Stairs” images.)

In the recent past, except for the annual Wairarapa Theme shoot, our monthly competitions have been judged by external judges. This year we have made a couple of changes.

If you look at the online version of our syllabus, (see www.wairarapacameraclub.org/WCC/Syllabus.html) you'll see that two other competitions were to be judged by members present at the meeting, rather than by an external judge. We decided to have more competitions judged by members to offer members a greater chance to critique images, and work through the thinking about what makes a photograph good, or not so good. Many famous photographers have said they improved their photography by looking closely and critically at other photographers' images, and then applying the same critique to their own work.

Well, one of the two 'judged by members' competitions has now past! February's *What is it?* competition was the first. It was also the first trial of our new criterion-based judging scheme. In short, the members' judging was a great success. Members entered willingly, thoughtfully, and frankly into the discussion about the strengths and weaknesses of the images.

The judging criteria seem to have worked. However, it is apparent that unless one is quite tough in relation to 'technical' and 'composition' criteria, the total score is highly dependent on your judgment of 'impact'. Consequently, a number of people found there was little discrimination in their final scores — a lot of photos ended up with similar scores. More experience may help, but if the criteria do not provide enough discrimination, the judging sheet will not be as helpful for providing feedback to photographers as we'd hoped. Watch this space!

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

To comment on anything in this newsletter, contact the editor:

tim.mcmahon@me.com



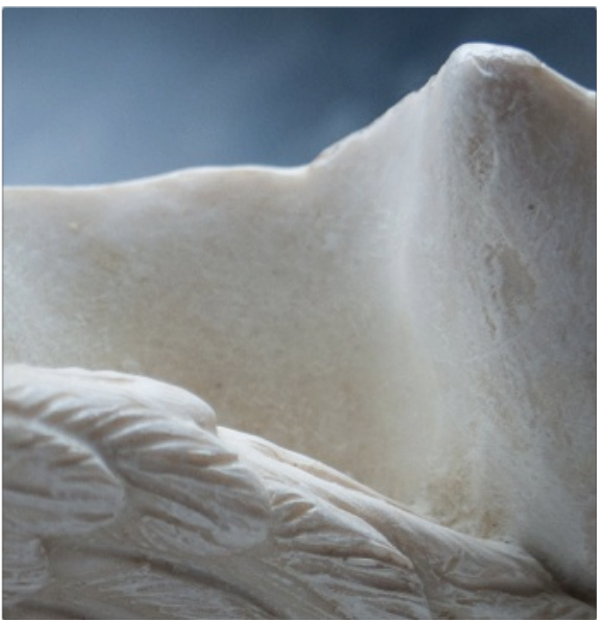
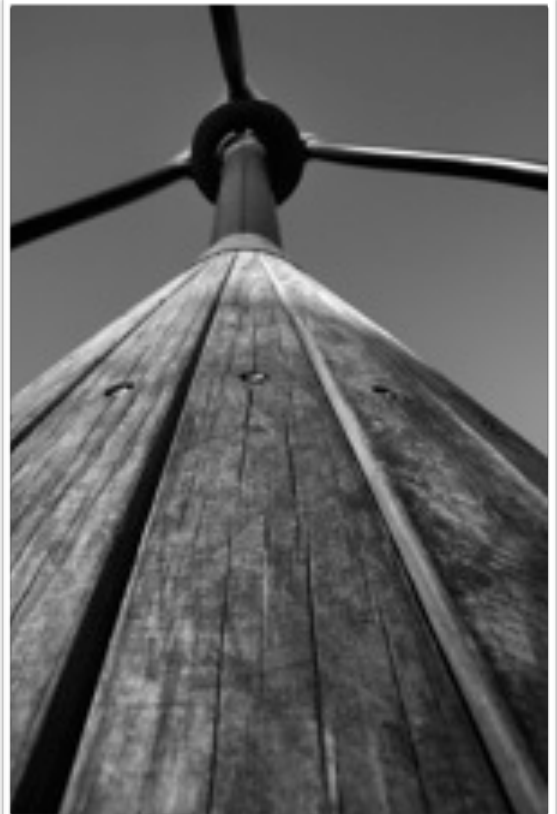
Competition: *What is it? / Not what you think*

When an external judge uses the new judging scheme we will be able to see, at a glance, what aspects of the image the judge thought strong, and what was not so good.

To record the scores for this competition we simply collected everyone's final total and averaged them. The disadvantage of that approach is that we do not have an accurate record of what everyone scored under each criterion. For the next internally judged competition ('*Humour*': 7 May) we will find a way of accurately recording everyone's marks on each criterion.

Results:

		Impact	Composition	Subject	Technical	Presentation	Averaged Total Score	
Projected Images		0-4	0-3	0-2	0-2	0-1	0-12	
Kay Halligan	<i>Days end</i>						7	
Kay Halligan	<i>What is it</i>						9	
Bruce Levy	<i>Heart of the Matter</i>						10	
Bruce Levy	<i>Wazzat</i>						10	
Nik Player	<i>Balance</i>						8	
Richard Lambert	<i>Lines inMotion</i>						9	
Richard Lambert	<i>Reddy to Use</i>						8	
Tim McMahon	<i>Growthesque</i>						9	
Tim McMahon	<i>Wheel be right</i>						8	
Carolyn Smith	<i>Time Me</i>						11	winner
Carolyn Smith	<i>Twist & Turn</i>						9	
Jazell Wilkie	<i>Brrr</i>						10	
Jazell Wilkie	<i>Name Me</i>						9	
Dave Ferguson	<i>Not a Helicopter</i>						11	
Dave Ferguson	<i>Retired</i>						9	
Meegan Cottle	<i>What on earth</i>						8	
Meegan Cottle	<i>Only on the inside</i>						8	
Prints								
Les Wong	<i>Zuchinni flower A</i>						8	
Les Wong	<i>Zuchinni flower B</i>						8	
Tim McMahon	<i>All that glitters ain't gold</i>						10	
Tim McMahon	<i>Is it a bird?</i>						10	tie
Carolyn Smith	<i>Look in the past</i>						10	
Carolyn Smith	<i>Handy on the go</i>						9	
Jazell Wilkie	<i>Point taken</i>						9	
Jazell Wilkie	<i>Crack this one</i>						8	

A selection of the favoured images:*Time Me, by Carolyn Smith**Not a Helicopter
by Dave Ferguson**Brrr? by Jazell Wilkie**Look in the Past
by Carolyn Smith*

Committee News

The committee met on the last Monday in January. In her Treasurer's report Kay presented a healthy balance of \$3361.47. Judges were confirmed for the upcoming competitions.

The committee received the application of a new member, Meegan Cottle. Welcome Meegan!

A date was set for the public workshop "Digital Camera 101" and we agreed to contact other members to see who could join the club team. We re-affirmed that increasing the membership is a focus for 2013.

There was further discussion about the judging framework especially in the context of how best to provide useful feedback that will help members to improve their photography. We agreed that judges need to be helped to use the judging framework appropriately, and that we would prepare a guideline for judges.

We approved the purchase of more mat board. (By the way, do all members know that they can purchase mat board, for mounting and matting prints, from the club at a fraction of the cost in retail art suppliers. Contact Sid Hayes: sid41south@xtra.co.nz). We also approved the purchase of a mat-board cutter which, in the meantime, is stored at the 'clubrooms'. The cutter is available for use before or after meetings. We are endeavouring to find a suitable storage location which would enable access at more convenient times — if anyone has a suggestion I'd love to hear from you.

The meeting concluded with brief discussions about the unsold photographs from the run of the Ruamahanga exhibition, and the club's website.

Watch this space for further news!

Print Workshop

Don't forget our workshop next Tuesday (February 19th, 7.30, usual venue) on maximising print quality.

This workshop has come up because of discussion following our 2012 Print of the Year competition when the judge, Deirdra Sullivan, noted that several otherwise wonderful photographs were spoiled because of softness and other issues related to inadequate preparation for printing.

At the workshop we'll work through the commonest errors that can cause poor print quality, and how to avoid them.

Digital Camera 101

On Saturday 9 March a few of us will be fronting up at the Education Centre, and in QEII park across the road, to help registered Wairarapa people learn the first things about using their camera.

While we are always learning and trying to improve, as camera club members we know most of the basic techniques about holding a camera to minimise camera shake; how to focus; how and when to take the camera off 'auto'; and how to compose a reasonable landscape or portrait. As digital photography has taken off, more and more people have a camera but are not able to make best use of it. This workshop is to help such people take the first steps.

Of course, there's a hidden agenda! By running the workshop we get a bit more exposure for the club and, if we make a good impression, possibly more members.

We need to acknowledge the invaluable help and support of the Wairarapa REAP in helping us administer this event.



Noticeboard

Print Workshop

Tuesday 19 February, 7.30pm
'Clubrooms'

How to get the best print quality from your masterpiece!

Level the playing field! Have your photos judged by their artistic quality, not by avoidable errors in print preparation.

Need mat board?

Contact Sid Hayes (06 3771922, or sid41south@extra.co.nz)

Sharp prices (but you'll need a sharp mat cutter!)

Any thoughts or reactions on the judging criteria following February's meeting.

contact
Tim

Next competition

Tuesday, 9 March 2013 "Doors, Windows, Stairways"

Note: Images do not have to include all of doors, windows, and stairways; any one or combination will do.

This competition will be judged by an external judge.

Usual submission rules apply (see <http://www.wairarapacameraclub.org/WCC/Syllabus.html> down the bottom of the page)

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