

# Camera Club News

## Letter From The President

Hello All

The winter is fast approaching and as the weather cools things photographic are hotting up! The morning and evening light these days is fantastic. A landscaper's paradise!

A small number of us had an interesting time at Zealandia last month. Certainly a great place to go if you're the kind of photographer who can successfully stalk birds! I'm afraid my photographs of saddleback (blur on the forest floor) and karearea (small spot in the sky) won't make anyone's albums!

Things to look out for this month:

- The upcoming competition, 'Human Emotion'. This will be a cracker meeting. The members who heard this judge/speaker last time were really inspired. Don't forget that, due to the judge's timetable, entries must be in a week earlier than normal — Wednesday 21 May.
- Our next *public* workshop: next Saturday 18 May (9.30 am at the Education Centre). This is still being advertised on the radio and in the local papers. REAP tells me that there are already 20 confirmed bookings. Club members, other than the group of us who are committed to leading the workshop, are welcome to attend. You could register with REAP as a participant, or join us to to help out. The last workshop was very enjoyable.
- On Tuesday 21 May we have a scheduled club workshop. It's entitled "Show, Tell, and Critique". The idea here is that people will bring along an image or two of their own, explain what they were trying to do and seek critique or advice on how the photograph might have been improved. Our composition workshop, which ran on these lines, was very successful. This may be a chance to ask the question(s) you always wanted to ask about "how should I ...?" or "what do you do if ....?". Hope to see you there.

Until next time. Happy shooting.

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](mailto: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](http://www.wairarapacameraclub.org)





## Zealandia

Some of the images of wild, tame, and interesting animals, taken on our trip to Zealandia. All images thanks to Kay Halligan or Carolyn Smith.





## Competition: Humour

For the May competition we introduced a few innovations. Firstly, we changed the rule restricting the number entries a member could make from a maximum of two prints and a maximum of two projected images to a maximum of four images in any combination of the media. Secondly we allowed that a

### Set Subject 'Humour' Results

Projected Image Entry		Impact	Com-position	Subject	Tech-nique	Presen-tation	TOTAL
		0 to 4	0 to 3	0 to 2	0 to 2		(up to 11)
Kay Halligan	<i>Carterton Saddleback</i>	2	2	1	2		7
Kay Halligan	<i>No More Headaches</i>	3	2	1	1		7
Bruce Levy	<i>Goota Kiss</i>	3	2	2	1		8
Bruce Levy	<i>Wire Rope Trick Fail</i>	2	2	1	1		6
Tim McMahon	<i>Teddy Boys</i>	2	2	1	1		6
Carolyn Smith	<i>Bay Watch Babe</i>	2	2	2	1		7
Carolyn Smith	<i>Bugger, I've Lost The Plot</i>	1	2	1	1		5
Carolyn Smith	<i>I Should've Bought The Navman</i>	2	2	1	2		7
Carolyn Smith	<i>Wake Me Up When There's Some Action</i>	2	2	1	1		6
Mike Longworth	<i>Concentration</i>	2	2	1	3		8
Jazell Wilkie	<i>Biggles Fogging up His Goggles</i>	2	2	1	1		6
Dave Ferguson	<i>Masterton Infrared</i>	3	2	2	2		9
Meegan Cottle	<i>Big Is Good</i>	2	2	2	2		8
Meegan Cottle	<i>Big Is Very Good</i>	3	2	1	1		7
Meegan Cottle	<i>Greedy's Not The Word For It.</i>	2	2	1	1		6
Meegan Cottle	<i>There's A Hole In My Bucket</i>	3	2	1	2		8

Print Entry							up to 12
Les Wong	<i>Be My Guest</i>	1	1	1	1	0	4
Les Wong	<i>Who Makes the Rules</i>	2	2	1	2	0	7
Tim McMahon	<i>Pawnstar</i>	4	3	2	2	1	12
Jazell Wilkie	<i>Father and Son</i>	2	2	1	2	0	7

maximum of one entry could be an 'open' entry. So, you will see in this month's results, there are two sections: the set subject section, and the 'open' section.

To give members a good chance to think about, and to try out our experimental judging scheme, the committee decided that *this* competition would be judged internally by members.

Member judging has traditionally been done by show of hands. We trialled a new approach in this competition.

The projected images were put up on line and members considered and marked them ahead of time. This seems to have worked very well. Thanks to Nik and Kevin for getting the images and the score sheets up on the website almost as soon as entries closed. The total marks were collated at the meeting (thanks Martin!) and read out as each image was shown. The numbers in the results tables are the averages of members' marks for each of the criteria, rounded to whole numbers. The marking was so close it took decimal points to find a winner in the open projected!

Jim Graydon, one of our senior (not 'old'!) members, looked at the prints ahead of the meeting and presented his scores, which were to stand unless there was significant and majority disagreement. There wasn't!

Thanks to Jim for his time, expertise and valuable comments.

'Humour' turned out to be another hard subject. A good stand-up comedian is much better than most of us at using timing and clever juxtaposition to make us laugh at the unexpected or absurd. It is so much harder in still photography to make good visual joke. For the people who chose to catch the funny moment, the challenge was balancing spontaneity against exposure and focus.

Some very good photographs were entered into the competition and the discussion at the meeting was both enjoyable and informative.

The next competition that is to be judged by members is the annual Wairarapa Theme competition in August. We may try the same process!

Congratulations Kay Halligan who won the spot prize! You have to be in to win!

## Open Section Results

Projected Image Entry		Impact	Composition	Subject	Technique	Presentation	TOTAL
		0 to 4	0 to 3	0 to 2	0 to 2		(up to 11)
Bruce Levy	<i>A Just Reward</i>	3	2	2	2		9
Tim McMahon	<i>Yet Another Landscape</i>	3	2	2	2		9
Mike Longworth	<i>White Rock</i>	3	2	2	2		9
Dave Ferguson	<i>Summer Memories</i>	3	2	2	2		9

Print Entry							(up to 12)
Sid Hayes	<i>Castlepoint: 100 years on</i>	4	3	2	2	1	12
Les Wong	<i>Gum Moth Emerging</i>	3	3	2	2	1	11
Martin Connelly	<i>Whangarei Basin</i>	2	1	2	2	1	8



A selection of the judge's favoured

*Masterton Infrared*  
by Dave Ferguson

**'Humour'**  
ProjIm



*Pawnstar*  
by Tim McMahon

**'Humour' Print**



A selection of the judge's favoured images cont'd



*There's a hole in my  
bucket*  
by Meegan Cottle

**'Humour' ProjIm**



*Gum Moth Emerging*  
by Les Wong

**'Open' Print**



Another of the judge's favoured images



*Castlepoint, 100 yrs on  
by Sid Hayes*

**‘Open’ Print**

## Have You Ever Wondered About ? ...

### Matting and Mounting

In presenting his thoughts on our print entries, Jim Graydon rightly pointed out some deficiencies in the mats on a number of photographs.

Prints need to be mounted so they can be safely transported and satisfactorily shown. Matting helps to protect the print. That is why photo competitions everywhere require prints to be mounted and/or matted.

In the pre-digital age every image entered into a competition was presented on a mount and the quality of the mount — or rather, it's potential to distract if badly done — came to be a measure in discriminating between entries.

In our current competition scoring scheme, print presentation has been given only 1 point out of 12.

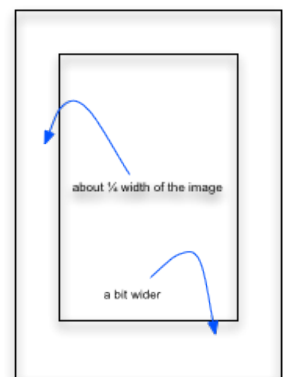
However in our club's competitions, projected images often form the majority of entries and the presentation point is not available to projected images (or is awarded to all projected images with no opportunity to lose it). Furthermore we tend to view competition entries and the scoring criteria as a way to focus people on the aspects of photography they can improve. How relatively important is matting and mounting in the scheme of things?

As part of the review of the scoring scheme, the committee will be considering whether to eliminate the points for mounting altogether. If you have any views on this, I'd be happy to receive an email. ([tim.mcmahon@xtra.co.nz](mailto:tim.mcmahon@xtra.co.nz))

Whether we decide to change the points scheme or not, prints *do* need to be mounted and optionally matted. There are no 'rules' about how this should be done, but there are some good practice ideas.

The border should be wide enough to give the whole presentation balance and to help divert the eyes from distracting surroundings. A border that is too narrow does neither of those things and often detracts from, rather than enhances the image. A reasonable rule of thumb is that the border on each side should be no less than  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the narrow dimension of the image (in other words, for a portrait image the whole mount should be  $1\frac{1}{2}$  times the width of the image). Many people think the mats look best if top and side borders are the same width, while the bottom border is slightly wider.

Jim pointed out too that if you're using a mat, if you make it a little larger than the mount board, you may be able to hide any untidiness at the edge of the mount and the adhesive holding them together.



Notwithstanding the idea about a wide border helping to focus the viewers attention inward, some photographers prefer to mount their photographs directly onto a mount that is exactly the same size as the photo. If the mount is sturdy, the image well stuck (and not spoiled by glue bubbles!), and the edges carefully done, this can be very effective.

The other good practice idea is to ensure that cuts are made straight and clean to avoid detracting from the overall effect of your image: that means using a good straight edge and a sharp blade.

The club owns a proper mat/mount cutter that is stored at the club rooms: anyone may use it. Call me or Sid Hayes to arrange access and help if you need it.

Alternatively you can buy a couple of simple tools from good art supplies stores. Have a look at <http://www.logangraphic.com/products/straightedges/> and <http://www.logangraphic.com/products/handheld/> to see what these look like.





## Noticeboard

Don't forget:  
Workshop:  
Tuesday 21 May, 7.30

Show, Tell, and Critique

### Next Month's competition

Don't forget next month's competition: Human Emotion.

Print entries must be in by 5pm Wednesday 22nd May.

Projected Images by Thursday 23rd.

### NOTE THE EARLIER THAN USUAL DATE

Same rules: up to 4 images in any combination of print or projected,  
and one may be 'open'.

### Next Year's exhibition

Keep in mind next year's exhibition: *Wairarapa at Work*.

Keep making photographs. We don't want a big rush at the end!

(PS refer back to Newsletter Issue 26, March 2012, for general hints on image  
quality for exhibition)