

Snapshot

Newsletter of the Rotorua Camera Club
Winter 2011

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Presidents Jottings

A busy first 6 months of the year have just speed by. It is still encouraging to get new faces to our meetings. Welcome to those who have joined us in the last couple of months. It is pleasing to see the number of entries coming thru and members achieving those much deserved honours.

If you have not entered into the monthly assessments, or haven't entered in a while, while not consider taking the time of the winter months to find entries for the upcoming topics:

JULY - Wet or open section
AUGUST - "Sky" or open section
Also the Bonnington Audio Visual Competition. Entries for AV are submitted in July
SEPTEMBER - Eyes or open section
OCTOBER - Fantasy or open section
NOVEMBER - There is no set subject.

The End of Year Competitions for each grade are:

Open Individual Image: The best individual image.

George Bennett Trophy: The best SET OF SIX prints or projected images.

Digital Artistic: The best "Artistic Statement" image

The annual 6 Ways competition was hosted by the Matamata club on Sunday July 3rd. Fifteen entries were submitted from the club into the competition. The club again did very well - See page 7 for results.

We hosted Trish and Alistair McAuslan for the AV workshop in May and an enjoyable day was had by all who attended. I look forward to seeing what many of you produce for the Bonnington Audio Visual competition in August. Please remember entries are due at our July meeting.

60th Birthday celebrations are currently well underway and forms for this can be found on the website.

The popular choice for monthly submissions is going well and it is good to see a wide range of images being selected.

At the recent Committee Meeting, I heard Petra talking to someone about table top photography. This is a good opportunity to keep your skills up over the winter months, by putting props onto a kitchen coffee or dining room table and using household lights to add lightening or window light and practice your photo skills. A good way to fill in an afternoon if raining, or to practice macro shoots. So give it a try and see what you come up with.

In August we are looking at hosting Cliff Threadgold from Hamilton to run a workshop on B&W photography. Further information and details in this newsletter and will be sent out when the details and content have been confirmed.

Happy shooting,



life member eric anderson



Eric Anderson has been a club member for over 30 years.

In that time, Eric has served on the executive of the club and is a willing provider of guidance and support to members of the club.

He was president of the club for three years, then acting secretary and for a number of year's competition secretary. When not doing these roles, he served as a committee member for a number of years.

Eric used his first negative colour film in his camera about 1965. Of which he still has the prints. The colour is still excellent, compared to later shop processed photo's which have deteriorated rather badly.

In 1997 he had 2 prints accepted for the Singapore International and only ten prints were submitted for the whole of New Zealand

In 1998 he was awarded 1st and 2nd in open print section and 2nd in humour section at Whakatane Summer Show.

Eric was part of the organising committee for the Ilford Shield Schools competition that the club ran in 1998.

Eric also formed part of the Rotorua Camera Clubs, PSNZ Northern Regional organising committee in 2005. He played a key part in with the images as part of the print competition at the conference.
Thanks Eric for all your help and support.



At the end of 2010 the committee agreed on an upgrade to the Rotorua Camera Club website to give it our own personal touch. With the help of local website designer, Adrian Hodge, we agreed upon a new layout and colour scheme. Adrian compiled all the technical side of things for us and the new website went 'live' in February 2011. One of the main reasons for the new layout was to make it easier for members to find certain information quickly - in particular the monthly club topics and contact information. This seems to have worked well and everyone that uses the site has given positive feedback on how things look and feel. A new feature we have added to the website home page is the People's Choice award photo from each month's club meeting. It's great to have a different photo featured on the home page each month to give recognition to whomever is the lucky recipient of this award.

End of year comps

Don't forget our end of year competitions. If you've not quite got round to entering a club competition before, perhaps have a go at this. Simply enter your *best* in one or more of these categories:

There is no set subject.

The End of Year Competitions for each grade are:

Open Individual Image: The best individual image.

George Bennett Trophy: The best SET OF SIX prints or projected images.

Digital Artistic: The best "Artistic Statement" image

follow us on

facebook

If you into the whole 'Facebook' thing then follow us online. Simply search 'Rotorua Camera Club' ...but then, as a Facebook junkie I don't need to tell you that do I?

flickr

Our Flickr page is easily located; just Google Flickr then search 'Rotorua Camera Club'. Flickr members (it's free) can join the club's page and add images, discuss photography topics. Flickr is also a great way of searching the web for motivational photo ideas!



John Ford's breathtaking 'April Morning'

*wanna to enter
club comps?
- here's how...*

To enter a club completion, the person needs to be a financial member of the club.

The person is issued a club number and entered into a grade. At the beginning all members will be entered into the novice grade. If the person has been a member of another Camera Club, elects to or is asked by the Committee to submit work to the grading panel, this will determine what grade they are assigned to.

A member may enter a maximum of TWO images per month (except the mid and end of year competitions and the AV competition), either in the open section, or as a set subject or a combination.

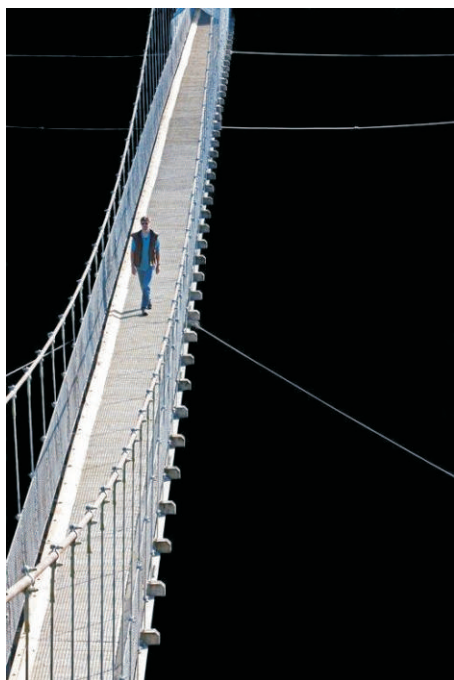
OPEN SECTION: The image may be any topic of the entrant's choosing.

SET SUBJECTS: Topics for the year are listed on the website. The set subject is designed to offer the additional challenge of photographing to a brief and interpreting a particular subject

Entries for the monthly assessment and the two competitions can be made at the monthly meeting as either a print or electronically on disk / flash drive. Entries can also be emailed to the competition secretary on compsecretary@rotoruacamera.co.nz

Entries must meet the criteria for entries as outlines on the website. This information can be found under the club info tab, and the downloaded rule book.

If you need help sizing your photos for club competition use just search *YouTube* 'Rotorua Camera'. Petra has created a very easy to understand vid of how to do this... or if you prefer just ask a committee member to explain it!

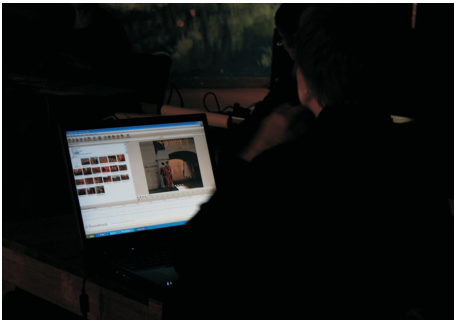


Betty Shepard's 'Crossing The Void' proves it's all about composition!

audio visual workshop

A good number of members attended the Audio Visual workshop held at the Dutch Club on Saturday 29th of May.

The presentation and workshop was conducted by Trish and Alistair McAuslan of the Tauranga Camera Club. Trish is a renowned photographer and is a PSNZ judge whose speciality is audio visuals. Many of you will recall the magnificent AV's she produced from her recent trip to the Antarctic



The workshop programme included working with Photoshop Bridge to sort and identify the photos to be used for inclusion in an AV and the method of developing a story that would flow in sequence throughout the AV.

We covered image resolutions, transitions, graphics, and the inclusion of suitable music and sounds that would enhance the presentation of the AV.



An important aspect of the presentation was learn how it was all put together and the percentage of points that a judge may award for each aspect of the finished production.

A couple of practical exercises were made available and these proved very productive in working through aspects of cropping to size and the use of Photoshop bridge to sort in order the AV presentation input of photos.

I would strongly recommend that anyone who is interested in the development of AV's should take time to attend a similar workshop and learn from the likes of Trish and Alistair the correct way of setting up and developing of an AV that tells a definite story supported by good photos and background sound effects.

Des Baillie

Creating © symbols

Here's a tip... If you post images to publicly accessible internet sites, like most people do these days, and want to add a degree of copyright protection in any windows program just follow the following instructions.

In any Windows application like Notepad or Photoshop, the numeric keypad is used in combination with the Alt key. Activate the numeric keypad by pressing the NumLock key.

*For the **Copyright symbol** (©) Hold the Alt key down and type 0169.*

*For the **Trademark symbol** (TM) Hold the Alt key down and type 0153.*

*For the **Registered symbol** (®) Hold the Alt key down and type 0174.*

Easy Eh!



Anger - Andrew Thomas

Images from some of our members.
For more inspiring work from our members see
our web page at:
[www.http://rotoruacamera.co.nz/](http://rotoruacamera.co.nz/)



The Kill - Nick Milsum



Determined - Sue Newton



Lost His Horn - Morkel Zaayman



Old Lamp In A Concrete Jungle - Lisa Ainsley



Fluffy Duck - Lisa Ainsley



February Evening - John Ford



Through The Gate - Keith Billington

camera batteries

One technology that hasn't kept up with the rapid pace of new digital cameras is camera batteries. The more features a camera has, the quicker it seems to use up precious battery power. There are three features of digital cameras that chew up battery life the quickest:

LCD Screen.

This is by far the most power thirsty feature in digital cameras. You can turn the screen off to conserve power, but I don't recommend this because the screen is very useful to determine if you have taken a great shot.

Flash.

Another big power user. The flash uses lots of battery as it's charging, so minimize usage. Zooming in and out also uses battery power to drive the motor. Refrain from changing your zoom too much. I recommend staying close to full optical zoom.

Make your batteries last longer

Given the two biggest power users on your camera are the LCD screen and Flash, there are ways to reduce the usage of these. If your camera allows you to, reduce the brightness of the screen to get more time from your battery. This will still allow you to see your photo, but it won't use as much power.

How do you minimize usage of the flash? Try doing without the flash when you're in low light by increasing the light around you. Or increase the "ISO Speed". The higher the ISO setting, the less light is needed to record the image.

Other secrets for making your batteries last longer.

Most digital cameras have a Power Saving mode. This 'shuts down' the camera – not switch off – after a period of time without use. Make sure Power Saving mode is on, or simply switch off your camera when you're not using it.

In cold weather, keep your camera and batteries warm in your jacket until you are ready to use them. Cold weather to batteries is like RAID is to bugs!

Store batteries in a cool, dry location away from sunlight and other heat sources. Avoid unnecessary playback of your already taken images, as this can also use a lot of juice.

If you haven't used your camera for a while, your rechargeable batteries will have lost some of their charge. Ensure you charge them fully before leaving the house.

Buy a spare battery

This has two advantages. You can get double the time from of your camera before needing to recharge by using two batteries. If you don't need an extra battery all the time, you can have

one charging at home when you're using the other. Then when you get home, swap them. Never leave your camera behind again because you don't have a charged battery.

What kind of battery should I purchase?

You will need to purchase a battery that is compatible with your camera, so I recommend taking your camera's battery to the shop with you when purchasing so the staff can

find another compatible battery. You don't need to purchase a battery from the same manufacturer as your camera, although be aware that choosing another brand may void your warranty – check your manual.

Go for a rechargeable Lithium ion battery if possible. These battery types have a greater capacity than the rechargeable ni-cad batteries and will pay for themselves in a short period of time.

Use the AC adapter

Most cameras have an adapter to allow you to plug directly into a power point. If you're going to be shooting for a long period of time in the one location, a camera plugged into a power point can be very handy. Note that some cheaper cameras have the plug for an AC adapter, but not the adapter itself.



Tell us what you wish to see in your newsletter - all suggestions welcome!

about the club...

Following is some information on the Club, why not add the conference to find out more?

Rotorua Camera Club was founded in 1950.

The inaugural meeting was held at the residence of Mr AD Warren at 39 Wallace Crescent : Rotorua.

In 1950, the clubs meetings were held at the xray room of Queen Elizabeth Hospital and the first open meeting was held on the 4th April and was attended by 14 people.

Membership stood at about 20 and the membership fee was 10/-.

The first completion they had was held in June of that year, were members submitted their own images.

The club has held it's meetings in various places over the years, including the Aero Club in Fenton Street, the Woman's Club and what was the Womans Bowling Club, where the bronze statue is in the Government Gardens.

There have been 29 presidents in our 60 year history, with the longest serving president and committee member being Kay Kinsleigh. Kay served as the president for 12 years and then secretary for many years after this.

There have been 11 life members with the first one of Margaret Bonnington being awarded in 1958 and the 11th being awarded to Eric Anderson in 2011.

Three of awards we award today have been in existence for a number of years.

For example the Bonnington Trophy (awarded by Margaret) for what originally were slides with audio and now for audiovisual was donated in 1957. The David Gould Night Trophy was donated and awarded in 1961. The George Bennett Trophy for the set of six images was awarded in 1963.

6 ways ...we won!

A huge thanks to those submitted images for the 6 Ways Competition. For the second year in a row, we have taken out the award for the total number of points, across the 6 clubs that make up 6 ways.

A perfect 10 was scored by Nick for his image entitled "The Crucifix". The judge did tell me, it was very hard to make a decision on which Camera Clubs images stood out more than the others.

So well done all and thanks to those members who attended. I will bring along to the meeting on Wednesday, the book that has been produced with the notes and scores of each of the images.

Sarah.

That's an idea!

Here's a challenging project you might like to try. A couple of years back I heard club members talking about a challenge to take an image (any image) per day for a week or a month – one image per day, every day! Of course you can take more than one, but pick the one you like the most and put it in an album. Perhaps print it or put it online, somewhere like Flickr for example. See if you can manage a month, two months or even a year – 365 images. You might self impose some rules, say a month of landscapes or 365 self portraits! Search Flickr '365' for some inspiration.

I've just completed my first 365 project and while I'm enjoying a rest from the camera, I'll likely have a go at another one soon. It was very motivating, quite difficult but really made me look differently at everything. And, when you are done, it's rather like looking at a photographic diary of your life!

Happy shooting - Mark



Co-oprative family come in handy for a photo per day project!

be part of the Sunday snappers!

Sunday snappers group is made of members of the Rotorua camera club, I am looking after the group till Wieland arrives back. We meet each Sunday and learn about our cameras, go off and take pictures on what ever challenge we set using aspects of the camera e.g. shutter speed. We meet in peoples home or at a named place and time is usually organised the week before. All are welcome and the day is very much hands on and fun. Contact myself or Wieland via the club for more information...

Chris Mills