



Focal Plane April 2012

A welcome from the President



Welcome to Focal Plane, the first for 2012! It has been a while; this year is well under way.

Hello to all our existing members and welcome to the new. To all I hope you enjoy this year.

A big thank you to all the new and existing members on Committee and our Committee helpers - without you there is no hub to the club. Please don't hesitate to contact any member of the Committee with info or for help.

Another big thank you to Moira Blincoe for acting as Editor for our previous Focal Plane. It is much appreciated that Karen Lawton has stepped in to take up the Editorial challenge from Moira.

As to photography thoughts, Lynn Clayton and I have just been on a road trip to Waikanae for Shona Jaray's photography exhibition opening. Not only was it fantastic to be there at the opening to mix and mingle with other photography minded people from around the country but the journey was full of photographic opportunity.

Traveling with another photographer is an excellent opportunity for learning; a number of times Lynn and I were taking photos of the same item and yet the outcomes were amazingly different. I was constantly in awe of what Lynn saw that I didn't.

My point being, get a photo friend, go out, share, swap ideas and learn.

For a bit of inspiration read David Simcock's account of the journey he and friends did from Cape Reinga to Bluff on <http://underourownsteam.blogspot.co.nz/>

David is a club member with a message. The site includes lots to read about their adventures with a wonderful photographic journal.

APS exhibition: David Prentice is working on the proposed APS exhibition. Currently he/we are looking for a suitable venue for APS members to have the opportunity to exhibit photographic work. More details to follow as we fine-tune criteria.

Kind regards

Sandrina

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Focal Plane is the Quarterly newsletter of the Auckland Photographic Society. The intention of Focal Plane is to inform; to celebrate member successes in competitions and in their forays into the wider photographic world; to keep APS members up to date with current Club events; and to provide a forum for points of interest and discussion. Focal Plane is your newsletter – please feel free to contact

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the Editor with thoughts, news and views. Input is always welcome.

On that note, let me introduce a new feature to Focal Plane “The Question of the Quarter”..... An issue to possibly raise debate and interest and on which the Editor would be very interested to receive your constructive feedback and views.

Judges rarely use their option to “pass” an entry. A “pass” can be decided upon for a number of reasons: the image may not fit the set subject under which it may have been entered; the image may not be ‘up to standard’; or – in the opinion of the judge on the night - the image may benefit from further post production work, sometimes as simple as a re-crop to focus the attention of the viewer. If an image is “passed” the author has the opportunity to re-enter it at Club at a later date. Did you know that?

What do you think?

Is the option to “pass” an image used frequently enough?

When it is used, is it done so constructively?

Would you rather receive a begrudging “acceptance” or a constructive “pass”?

Email the Editor with your thoughts on this at times perplexing issue and opinions will be aired in the next issue of Focal Plane. And, if you have an idea, issue, point of interest that you would like to be considered for wider consideration in this “Question of the Quarter” forum, let me know....

The APS Committee 2012-2013

Patron – Brian Cudby

Past President - Brent Glover

President – Sandrina Huish

Vice President/Membership – Roger Hammond

Secretary – Karin Charteris

Treasurer – Gaelene Heydon

Print Convener/Web Master – Michael Mannion

Web Master Assistant – Stuart Cairns

Competition Convener/Librarian - Liz Hardley

Workshop Convener – Bridget Rule

Casual Night and Trophy Convener – Estelle Swan

The Committee is also ably assisted by the following helpers:

Digital Image Conveners – Andrew Chong and Andrew Simpson

Meet and Greet - Idil Gaziulusoy

Focal Plane Editor – Karen Lawton

Competition Results

Natex 2012

Congratulations to all APS members who received acknowledgement for their images at Natex [and apologies to anyone whose name may have been missed off this list].

Open Prints



GOLD and MAADi Cup to Sandrina Huish “Nat de Vil”

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Sandrina was presented with the Maadi Cup by Patron Brian Cudby on Club night 19th April.



SILVER to Liz Hardley "Nailbiting RWC"



BRONZE to Laurie Williams "Near Tairua"

Open Prints Acceptances:

Karin Charteris
Brian Cudby
Idil Gaziulusoy
Liz Hardley

Open Digital



BRONZE to Brian Cudby for "Guardians"

Open Digital Acceptances:

Moira Blincoe
Karin Charteris
Lynn Clayton
Kirsty Collister
Brian Cudby
Idil Gaziulusoy
Liz Hardley

Nature Projected Acceptance:

Chris Piper

Easter Show 2012

Congratulations to **Liz Hardley** who was awarded 3rd place and two Merits in the Digital Enhancement section and a third Merit in the People section at the

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Royal Easter Show Photography competition.



3rd Digital Enhancement to Liz Hardley "Monkey Business"

42nd Dunedin Festival of Photography 2011

The results of this competition were announced late 2011, and selected images were on public display January 2011 at the Dunedin Railway Station. Congratulations go to Brian Cudby and Liz Hardley for their achievements in this competition:

Open Projected Images:

Champion and Festival Honours - Best Portrait

Brian Cudby [Bali Girl]

Open Prints:

Festival Honours -Best Portrait

Liz Hardley [Len]

Best Photojournalism

Liz Hardley [No Pain No Gain]

Best Experimental Image

Liz Hardley [Cornwall Park Infrared]

JAX Wine Bar Summer Kiwiana

APS members were recently invited to participate in the inaugural JAX wine & tapas bar "Summer Kiwiana" photography competition.

Five images were chosen as being representative of evoking the special feelings of a New Zealand summer. These winning entries [four from Auckland Photographic Society members, one from North Shore Photographic Society] will be featured in an exhibition at JAX Wine bar. The featured photographers are:

Liz Hardley

Phil Hickling

David Prentice

Saai Santosh

Estelle Swan

The opening evening is scheduled to take place on Sunday May 6th from 5-9pm. APS and NSPS members are cordially invited to attend.

Complimentary canapés and drink specials will be provided for the evening. Watch for email advice of this date.

Member Watch

In addition to congratulating members on their competition results, Focal Plane is an ideal vehicle for members to share their photographic successes in the world beyond the Club. Share these successes, inspire others and celebrate your hard work and achievements by sending your info to the Editor for inclusion in the next Focal Plane. All info c/- karen@istari.co.nz

In that vein, following is information from APS members **Chris Morton** and **Neville Bailey**.....

Book Launch: out there NORTH

APS member **Chris Morton** recently launched 'out there NORTH' described as 'a 4WD adventure in New Zealand's North Island'. Created in conjunction with Tony Bridge, this is a follow up to the 2010 publication 'out there SOUTH'. Out there NORTH is the record of the journey Chris and Tony made through the more remote regions of the North Island, capturing spectacular scenery and meeting unforgettable

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people – not to mention having another very memorable boy's own adventure.



Copies of out there NORTH are available direct from Chris at \$45 per copy [RRP\$49.95]. Contact Chris on chris@mortonphotography.co.nz



Neville Bailey: New Zealand Autocar



Ten photographs by APS member **Neville Bailey** feature in two articles in the April edition of New Zealand Autocar. Neville has landed himself a gig

covering the new V8 Supertourers and the images shown here [as featured in NZ Autocar] are from the first meeting held at Hampton Downs.

Following on from the success of this shoot, Neville will now be covering all North Island V8 Supertourer events for New Zealand Autocar.

As Neville says: *"to be able to do something you love doing and get something back to help pay for more gear is great"*.



Upcoming Competitions

Canon Online Competitions

Round 2 - closing date 30 April 2012.

North Shore Salon 2012

The call for entries has been made for the annual North Shore Salon and will be accepted from 30th April until 25th May 2012. Information about the Salon is available on their website, from which you can view the conditions of entry. Check out: <http://www.northshoresalon.co.nz>,

Trenna Packer Salver Nature Competition

In recent years APS has made a conscious effort to revive Club interest and participation in InterClub competitions.

The Trenna Packer Salver competition is the next on our annual schedule. Run by the Nature Photography

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Society of New Zealand, last year APS was awarded 3rd place in this competition.

Winning images from 2011 can be viewed here: http://www.naturephotography.org.nz/events/trenna_packer_salver.aspx

In 2012 we would like to do even better!

The subject matter for the Trenna Packer Salver is “Natural history taken in New Zealand and its off shore islands.” The rules for this competition are strictly defined by PSNZ and can be accessed at: <http://www.naturephotography.org.nz/pdfs/trenna-packer-Nat-History-Rules.pdf>)

A set of 6 digital images of a high standard is required (no more than 2 by one member). Images that you would like to have considered for inclusion in the APS entry should be emailed to Liz Hardley (l.hardley@auckland.ac.nz) **prior to 15th May.**

Please note that images are required to be saved as jpeg, sRGB colour space, resolution 72ppi with 1400 pixels on the horizontal for landscape and 1050 on the vertical side for portrait and at a file size between 400Kb and 1Mb.

North Harbour Rotary Photo Competition

It's time for North Harbour Rotary's Photo Competition again and entries are invited from APS members, family and friends. The entry fees will be used for Rotary charity projects so even if you don't win you know you have been successful in helping others. If you do win, the magnificent trophy you receive will look stunning on your coffee table for the next 12 months.

The entry form can be downloaded from the NHR website www.rotarynorthharbour.org.nz

So what are you waiting for? Send in those amazing images today. Entries close **31st May 2012.**

If you have any questions please call Neville on 4737276 or 0274931700 or email sue.nev@xtra.co.nz

Club News

New Members

Welcome to the new members of Auckland Photographic Society:

Delwyn Barnett, Cheryl Coleman, Michael Danesh-Meyer, Guo Meriana, Saai Santosh and Paul Walton. [and Editorial apologies to anyone whose name is not included here.....]

Sharing Email Contact Details

In a recent initiative, Club members were asked whether they were happy to have email contact details shared amongst other, like minded Club members. This concept was raised at the AGM by Idil Gaziulusoy, who shares her rationale below....

“We believe in order to grow a community culture within the Club, help new members to become a part of this community and also to enable peer-to-peer learning opportunities, it is important for Club members to be interacting with each other. This has been the rationale behind organising casual nights in recent years. Now, we also would like to invite those who would like to interact with other members more spontaneously, to organise photo-shoots, to sell/buy equipment, to invite feedback for photographs, to tap into the large skill-base that we have amongst our members, to be part of a group email list.

If you would like to interact with other members directly via email, please let us know and we will add your email address to the group list. This is voluntary and not being a member of this email group will not have any effect on you receiving emails sent by the committee members [such as competition reminders]”.

Housekeeping reminders

Print Entries

We have created a new, dedicated email address for print competition registrations to streamline the entry process. Please remember to send all print competition registrations to aps.printreg@gmail.com

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Print Sizes

A timely reminder about the maximum-minimum size of prints: maximum print size including the matt is 400 mm x 500 mm; minimum print size is 297 mm x 210 mm. All prints must be mounted on firm card and preferably with a matt.

Multiple images may be submitted as a single work provided that the images are all on the same mount and that this mount conforms to the minimum and maximum size requirements.

Framed or glass covered prints will not be accepted.

Club Competition Nights

No late entries will be accepted after 7.45pm regardless of prior registration. Please note that only fully paid financial members of APS can enter the Club competition nights. We also encourage members to assist with setting up the chairs and getting the room ready for the meeting and equally, putting everything away at the end of the night.

Forthcoming Competition Subjects and Workshops

May: Landscape [Trophy]

June: Low Light

July: Apple

Workshops for the next quarter have not yet been finalized so keep a watch on the website Calendar. In addition, email advice will be sent to all members detailing topics once the schedule has been put in place by the Committee.

The Bit at the End [aka Editorial Musings]

Loosing the Muse:

What do you do when the muse has gone? When you realise that it has been weeks since you have picked up your camera, been inspired to create an image or capture a moment? How do you find the muse again? In a time of change, of disturbance or distraction, finding the inclination for creativity can be – quite simply – hard work.

The platitudes arrive easily.....Make the time, put yourself in the moment, find space. If you are not in a creative making mode, look at what other people have done/are doing, soak up the creativity that is evident on websites, in magazines, in exhibitions and here at Club. Platitudes gain that label by being expressions of essential truths so - trite as they may sound at times - there is wisdom within them.

There is truth in simply 'doing'. Even if the resultant images don't ring any bells right now, file them, walk away; rediscover what you may have captured when you are in a more artistically receptive mood. And when the camera is too much of an effort but the ideas are still there? Write them down. Whether a finished image or a concept, however fleeting, capture the idea. For another time.

My muse has been hibernating. Whether it emerges in some future springtime, thin and drawn after a long winter's solitude without sustenance, or whether it emerges refreshed, alive, full of creative spirit is a mystery – the luck of the draw.