



Focal Plane – June/July/August 2009

PRESIDENTS ADDRESS



Hello all and welcome to another edition of Focal Plane.

The last two months have been action packed on all fronts with good attendance at workshops, competitions and field events. We are also seeing a larger number of prints and digital images than

ever before being submitted, prompting the committee to rethink some aspects of our nights in addition to finding a larger venue.

To that end I can say by the time you read this Focal Plane we hope to be ensconced at St Pauls Church (St Vincent Ave, Remuera) from August onwards. St Pauls has room for us to grow without the current cramped conditions we have today and I believe will allow us to run our nights more efficiently. We will need to make some improvements to the hall to cater for our needs and we will be putting a call out soon for folk with handyman & curtain expertise.

Another change to try and improve the flow of our nights is members need to register their prints via email to the Print Convenor by the Sunday before the competition night. This enables the majority of the paperwork to be completed well and truly before the night and is hoped to allow us to start on time.

Some of you have asked about what my vision is for APS. It is simple...

- 1: ensure you have fun taking and presenting your imagery.
- 2: create opportunities to take images, explore your photographic journey, and mechanisms to present them.
- 3: ensure the infrastructure of APS is strong enough to cater for members to take images and present them, today and in the future.

At the last AGM I talked about the two main components of the Club – the Workshops & Competition nights – and about the third component that we wanted to bolster – that of the social side where I would suggest is one of the best ways to share knowledge and experiences.

The first part of bolstering the social fabric of APS is the position of Field Event Coordinator and we have had some excellent events take place recently with at least one more before the end of the year.

The second part of bolstering the social side of the club is the recent formation of evening forum groups (for want of a better phrase) where members can discuss photography in general. It is excellent to see this happening and I hope more of you take these opportunities up.

I have received some comment and indeed I am concerned with the large number of honours images being awarded during the course of the competition nights. Obviously there are more images being presented each night, but when 40% of them gain honours this seems excessive. In the past around 10% of images may gain honours or in some cases none at all. Traditionally honours club images infer it could gain at least an acceptance at PSNZ or even NZIPP level. To that end I have asked the judges to be much stronger in not handing out honours – you are just going to have to work harder!

For those who may be concerned this will impact your journey through the grades – do not be – APS grading only partially relies on points awarded over the course of the year.

Recently, some committee members and I attended a Regional Committee get-together which was an excellent chance to meet our counterparts, discuss ideas, problems and resolutions. It was also an opportunity to sound out ideas for the 2010 regional convention that APS will host next year. I hope also to have more weekend shoots with our counterpart clubs, much like the recent Waiheke events.

Well enough from me. Enjoy your year and get out there with your camera in hand!

Brent Glover.



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CURRENT - RECENT FIELD EVENTS & WORKSHOPS

<http://www.aps.net.nz> Menu = "Field Events"

FASHION COURSE

By the time you read this, the Fashion Photography Course will be in full swing. There may still be the opportunity to attend parts of the course so contact Ronald Winstone if you are interested. (There is a charge for this course). Read on for details

FASHION SHOOT WINS SUPPORT FROM THE FASHION INDUSTRY.

The APS fashion course is now well underway. Amanda Banskrove of Catwalk Studios giving the opening address. Three practice sessions are now scheduled before Michael Ng, world ranking fashion photographer, makes a presentation on studio lighting.

The course is aimed at increasing the awareness of Fashion Photography, with six key presentations by industry leaders, and practical sessions in between. It involves over 40 people including Models, Make Up Artists, Stylists and other professionals.



The course is part of a series of courses being undertaken to give members the opportunity to develop skills in different areas of photography. Other courses are planned on "Still Life Studio Lighting". "Portrait studio Lighting". Details are on the club website under Field Events.

The Fashion course consists of a general overview of model training and the types of photos required in the fashion industry. There are presentations by leading

photographers and several agency presentations and a full on fashion shoot.

The course is being supported by Catwalk Studios, August Talent, Michael Ng Photography, Clyne Management, Apix Photographic Supplies, Trelise Cooper, Liz Mitchell and many others.

The club wishes to make a special acknowledgement to the presenters and sponsors for the contribution they have made to the course.

BINH TRINH WORKSHOP

Binh put on a very informative and entertaining night with some useful insight into what makes a great image for competition. The night also allowed us to see how St Pauls as a potential venue would work for us.

Binh may be up later in the year and we hope to get him in again for another workshop. www.ppp.net.nz

LISA CRANDELL WORKSHOP

This July, Lisa put together a very informative workshop on portrait and people photography, including working with on camera flash.

Lisa runs Sunday afternoon photographic courses over the year. Details can be found on Lisa's web site www.image.co.nz



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UPCOMING EVENTS & WORKSHOPS

“Morning Light” Photoshoot with Lynn Clayton



A stimulating shoot, at first light on the waterfront, plus a “Treasure Hunt” of items to photograph. Followed by good cheer and a rousing breakfast or invigorating coffee. This is an opportunity to shoot with one of the club’s great identities. Lynn Clayton. Who has kindly agreed to lead the shoot and assist with camera settings, composition, etc

Bring cameras, (Tripods optional), a smile and good humour.

Participants are requested to enter their comments in the Attendance Book that will be at the Breakfast/coffee spot and to provide an image to record the event.

Venue. Meet Mission Bay Fountain

Time 6.30am Sunday 9th August

Duration approx 2 1/2hrs.

After the shoot meet for Breakfast/Coffee meet at “Mecca”, StoneHouse 44 Tamaki Drive, Mission Bay.

Attendance is limited to APS members and immediate family.

Register to be kept informed of updates, postponements etc by email to rahwinstone@me.com

For more details refer to the website under Field Events.



LANDSCAPE – ONE TREE HILL DATE – TBA

This event provides an opportunity to work with Chris Morton, one of our great landscape photographers.

ADOBE PHOTOSHOP WEEKEND COURSE – JOHN DOOGAN – TBA

We are working on the possibility of a John Doogan (official Adobe Ambassador) seminar weekend for those wanting a full course on Adobe Photoshop/Lightroom. Cost - TBA

2009 COMPETITION SCHEDULE

The 2009 competition set-subject is set as...

Month	Set Subject
August	Macro / Close Up
September	Black & White
October	“Yellow” End of Year submissions. Up to 12 images of no more than 6 of one media type. Images must be submitted as they were (i.e. media type) during the course of the year.
November	End of Year 2009 Award night.
January 2010	“Dereliction”
February 2010	TBA

2009 WORKSHOP SCHEDULE

Month	Workshop Topic
August	Lightroom 2.0. Chris Morton
September	Photoshop 101. Brent Glover
October	Images from Chris Morton’s recent UNESCO work.
November	End of Year 2009 Award night. 19 th November at the Auckland Club main dining hall. Formal attire.

Check out the **calendar** section of our web site <http://www.aps.net.nz> for a complete list of workshops coming up.



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DIGITAL PROJECTION CONVENOR

Trevor Jones has stepped down from the Digital Convening role as he and his wife are returning to the UK for job commitments.

We need at least two members to take on the role of being able to work the projection unit and laptop and another to take on the Convenor role. This should ensure coverage when one member is unable to attend a night.

Image size Change

The last committee meeting has approved the following changes to digital images.

The maximum size an image can be is 1280 pixels along the vertical or horizontal.

File name Change

<MyGrade>_<Set/Open>_<MyFullName>_<MyTitle>.jpg

For example

A Novice grade Set subject Image from member Joe Bloe titled "Bob the Builder" would be

NOVICE_SET_JoeBloe_BobTheBuilder.jpg

A Salon Open image from Jane Doe without a title would be

SALON_OPEN_JaneDoe_NOTITLE.jpg

Submission times

Submissions of digital entries remains the Sunday evening (midnight) before the following Thursday competition night.

Submission emails

Submissions of digital entries is to the communications@aps.net.nz address

Maximum Number of entries

The maximum number of digital submissions remains two per night

PRINT CONVENOR

With the increase in the number of club members we have changed to a new method for registering images submitted to print competitions. (Maximum of two per competition night)

This will help speed up the start of our normal club nights. To do this we are now asking members to register their prints by email.

To register your prints please send by email as follows:

Information required for each print submitted

Grade: Novice, Advanced or Salon

Category: Set or Open

Name: i.e. Michael Mannion

Print Title: Your Title

Brief Description of Image: Only supply this if your print title is 'NO TITLE'

The email subject header should read

'APS Print Competition – month/year'

Emailed registrations to be sent to:

michael@kinematics.co.nz

by midnight on the Sunday prior to the competition night.

Note: submissions to the digital/projected image

competitions are still sent to communications@aps.net.nz

CONVENTIONS + CELEBRATIONS

125 YEARS + CELEBRATIONS

Neville and his team have secured an excellent venue for the 125th print exhibition scheduled for just before the November end of year awards dinner.

Call for Images

All members wishing to submit images for the 125th Exhibition should email digital proofs to the Digital Convenor communications@aps.net.nz for the selection panel.

A limit of 4 digital images can be submitted.

The images can be any subject.

The selection panel will then contact members for printed versions of the digital images.

The prints should conform to the PSNZ standard – mounted on 20in x 16in cards.

Due to space constraints not all images will be selected and not all prints may be used



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MEMBER WATCH

The 2009 North Shore Salon has completed with a number of members doing very well.

From 13th to 24th July 2009, the North Shore Photographic Society will be exhibiting the accepted prints and digital images at
Canon's Head Office,
29 The Warehouse Way,
Northcote, Auckland.

JUDGES CHOICE

Lynn Clayton APSNZ, AFIAP – Train Travel

DIGITAL OPEN COLOUR

GOLD MEDAL

Lynn Clayton APSNZ, AFIAP – Train Travel

DIGITAL OPEN MONOCHROME

ACCEPTANCE

Idil Gaziulusoy – The Famous Spiegeltent

DIGITAL SET SUBJECT 1 'DOUBLE TAKE'

HONOURS

Idil Gaziulusoy – Into the Heart of Things

PRINTS OPEN MONOCHROME

ACCEPTANCE

Kirsty Collister – Twisted

PRINTS OPEN COLOUR

Acceptance

Kirsty Collister – Tank Farm

DIGITAL OPEN COLOUR

Gold Medal

Lynn Clayton APSNZ, AFIAP – Train Travel

PRINTS SET SUBJECT 2 'FLIGHT'

ACCEPTANCE

Liz Hardley APSNZ LRPS – High Five, Up and Over

PRINTS SET SUBJECT 1 'ALONE'

ACCEPTANCE

Liz Hardley APSNZ LRPS – Alone in the Crowd, Into the Light, Last to Leave

PRINTS OPEN MONOCHROME

ACCEPTANCE

Kirsty Collister – Twisted

PRINTS OPEN COLOUR

ACCEPTANCE

Kirsty Collister – Tank Farm

Faye Hayman – Britomart

PRINTS OPEN COLOUR

HIGHLY COMMENDED

Brian Cudby FPSNZ – Rosa