



# Focal Plane – Sept-Dec 2009

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## **PRESIDENTS ADDRESS**



Hello all and welcome to the final Focal Plane for 2009.

By the time you are reading this we will be heading into the silly season and also close to our End of Year 125th Dinner celebration.

Neville, Adam and Nicola have been busy behind the scenes organising the 125th

Exhibition of images from past and present members. The images were on display at the Main Auckland Library.

On November the 19th we officially finish with the End of Year awards. This year is unusual in that we are having a dinner to celebrate the club making it past 125 years. During the dinner Dr Leonard Bell and Marti Friedlander will be talking about Marti's new book. Marti is a national treasure when it comes to photography and I am very honoured we have Marti as a guest speaker for the evening.

Two other special guests, Alistair McAuslan (PSNZ President) and Peter McMahan (End of Year Competition Judge) will also be attending the dinner, with Peter giving feedback on the images submitted for judging.

Our new venue at St Paul's certainly has proved itself in accommodating the larger groups now attending competition nights and workshops. Storage is proving to be problematic, with kit scattered about and the display frames propped high above on the shelves. Enough to give OSH officers the flutters. I have asked the committee to liaise with St Paul's to see what can be done in this regard.

Early next year we will need to have a working bee at St Paul's to sort out some aspects of the hall, namely - curtains, lighting, storage, projection screen and presentation boards.

I am also very pleased to announce the formation of the Magnum Group. The group is made up from some of our very best photographers whose images we don't always see these days. It is my hope to see this group active and engaged in photography. My thanks must go to Chris Morton and Andie Pryce for thrashing out the basic

concepts of how the group would work and to my Committee for confirming its creation.

Recently BECA contacted me to see if a small team of APS members would photo-document the Victoria Park Tunnel project. I was very pleased with the uptake which will create a combined set of work over the course of the project. These images will be displayed in public spaces around Victoria Park and also in the information centre.

There will be more exciting opportunities for members to be involved in photography projects between now and the New Year. I will leave these to be announced at a later date.

Finally, given I am going to be harder to get hold of over the next few months or so I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Prosperous New Year.

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

Brent Glover.

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## **2010 COMMITTEE**

Members are invited to express their interest in becoming involved on the General Committee for next year.

Please contact or email the Secretary (Sandrina Huish).

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## **MAGNUM GROUP**

The Magnum Group is now underway. This group of about nine are some of our most accomplished photographers. The purpose of the group is to extend each member beyond the realm of regular competition nights and produce '*a body of fresh work*' in the form of an exhibition of the highest standards. The secondary purpose is to mentor the general membership of the Society and to that end the new "casual nights" planned for next year will aide in this purpose.

The works are not judged, and additionally Magnum Group members have a two year time frame to produce their work. This will give other members over time an opportunity to work at this level.

The inaugural members are Chris Morton, Andie Pryce, John McCallum, Dharmendra Krisson, Charles Lynch, Lisa Crandall, Chris Piper, Robert Jaques and Lynn Clayton.



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### **MEMBERSHIP CARDS/BADGES**

The last Committee meeting decided to pursue the concept of a membership card which members can use at various photographic retailers to show they belong to a Photographic Society. The concept is that if a retail outlet is able to provide a discount to certain customers, then shop management know they are dealing with a paid up member of the Society.

The card, it is hoped, will allow members to leverage educational pricing (e.g. cheaper copies of Photoshop and Lightroom) from selected retailers. However this does not mean the Committee or Members will be actively doing "deals" on behalf of APS.

### **EQUIPMENT PURCHASES**

The Committee has agreed to purchase at least one ColorMunki calibration unit this year with a view to purchasing a second unit next year. The issuing of these will be managed by our Librarian (Liz Hardley). There will be a token loan fee.

Next year we *may* use a casual night for members to bring in computers and laptops for "calibration en masse".

### **RECENT FIELD EVENTS & WORKSHOP**

#### **CLUB PARTICIPATES IN NZ FASHION WEEK**

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

The Air New Zealand Fashion Shoot Night with Trelise Cooper was held for the second year and very well attended by the Society. It is great to see this event happening again and our thanks to Ronald Winstone for organising this.

Thanks to Trelise Cooper the club was invited to form a media team and photograph her second parade. The official media covering the earlier parade.

32 photographers registered within 24 hours and with the help of 8 photographers from Waiheke, Waiuku and Papatoetoe we were able to provide 43 photographers.

Event Coordinator Ronald Winstone, provided a briefing evening and the team was set to go.

With around 50 photographers packed onto the media platform it was a wholesale paparazzi affair. The excitement and glamour of the night lead to many great pictures.



Brian Evans Marketing consultant for Trelise summed it up with “

Just a wee note to say a big thank you for organizing the “paparazzi”, it was very much appreciated and we hope the team had a great night.

The fee for the event raised \$700 for upgrading the new St Paul’s Venue.

### **UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE SITES**

Chris Morton's work documenting a number of the UNESCO designated World heritage sites for 'OUR PLACE' was presented to the Society in October. What a stunning and substantial body of work it is. The Society is most certainly fortunate having Chris as a member along with the inspiration he provides for the rest of us.

### **FASHION PHOTOGRAPHY SEMINAR**

The Fashion Photography Seminar was a resounding success with great accolades from photographers, participants and supporters.

Envisaged as a “hands on” learning experience to photograph models with studio lighting it was a bigger event than the normal one night workshop.

Six photographers took part with several members dropping in to see the group in action.



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The programme started with Amanda Bransgrove of Catwalk Studios outlining the expectations of the industry. Michael Ng giving two sessions, the first, an introduction to lighting and the second a demonstration shoot. Huia from August Models then gave the Model Agents views. In between nights involved practice sessions with models varying from the girl next-door right through to some of Auckland's top models.



A special feature of the course was the opportunity to have the previous fortnights photos reviewed by a professional. This opportunity to take, process and have a review of everyone's prints was a very informative process and well worth repeating.

There was a huge level of support from many people in the industry. SMR Make Up Academy providing Make Up Artists for every night, Stylists helping with clothing and accessories. APIX providing lighting equipment. Also many retailers and manufactures lent apparel.

Special thanks go to Michael Ng, lead photographer with out who's help and encouragement the event would never have taken place. We welcome Michael into the club as a member. Michael is a world-renowned Catwalk photographer. Also thanks go to Jo Cameron who provided

countless hours gathering fashion clothes and Olga Gill Chief Make Up Artist.

The fact that APS can put on a seminar of this magnitude shows the huge support and respect the fashion industry has for the Society. The cost to have paid commercial rates for the event would have been around \$ 20,000. While the attendance was expensive at \$400 per head it was amazing value.

The challenge of learning a new lighting system and working with models proved to be a very rewarding experience for the participants. Over 7000 photos being taken over the 12 nights.

Sadly the finish date for the seminar coincided with the NZ Fashion Week, which meant that the club did not get the media exposure the event deserved, but despite this it has opened the way to more significant events.

The course was coordinated by Ronald Winstone and attended by Fergus Clark, Adam Baines, Nicki Maud, Liz Hardley and Roger Hammond.

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### **2010 SCHEDULE**

2010 is going to be a busy year and the committee is putting the final touches on the schedule which will be posted to the web site over the next few weeks.

The major change to the running of the club next year, is the additional "Casual Night" (the 2nd Thursday of the month). "Casual Nights" have no set agenda and the evening will be oriented to members just wishing to socialise, talk photography, figure out things, take photos inside etc.

In other words you will not be sitting down listening to a Judge or Speaker. Some nights will be dedicated to the Magnum group and this is seen as an opportunity to meet with the group and have a more one-on-one conversation about photography in general.

We are also committed to hosting the 2010 Northern Regional Conference on behalf of PSNZ. There are some exciting ideas on the table that Nicki Maud and her team are following through.



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## 2010 COMPETITION SCHEDULE

<b>Jan - Dereliction</b>
<b>Feb - Audio Visual (trophy)</b>
<b>Mar - "RED"</b>
<b>Apr - The five elements - Fire, Water, Air, Earth, Spirit</b>
<b>May - Portrait (Trophy)</b>
<b>Jun - "Three of a Kind"</b>
<b>Jul - Landscape (trophy)</b>
<b>Aug - Motion &amp; Blur</b>
<b>Sep - "Chocolate &amp; Coffee"</b>
<b>Oct - Patterns &amp; Geometry</b>
<b>Nov - 2010 End of Year Awards</b>

## 2010 WORKSHOP SCHEDULE

The Workshop Schedule is tentative at this point and is subject to change. Please refer to the web site on a regular basis as this will contain the latest and most accurate information.

February - 2010	Basic Camera Handling Workshop
March - 2010	Induction Night & Image preparation - Printed and Digital, What Judges look for
April - 2010	APS - Annual General Meeting
May - 2010	The PSNZ Honours System
June - 2010	In the Studio
July - 2010	From Camera to Printed image
August - 2010	Lightroom Basics
Sept - 2010	Photoshop
October - 2010	<b>2010 Regional Convention Briefing</b>
Nov - 2010	Pro Show Gold AV

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

## 2010 CASUAL NIGHTS

February - 2010	Casual Night
March - 2010	<b>Magnum Group</b>
April - 2010	Casual Night - kit night / calibration
May - 2010	Casual Night
June - 2010	Casual Night
July - 2010	<b>Magnum Group</b>
August - 2010	Casual Night - camera tossing
September - 2010	Casual Night
October - 2010	<b>2010 Regional Convention</b>
November - 2010	<b>Magnum Group Exhibition</b>

## 2010 FIELD TRIPS AND EVENTS

There are a number of ideas in the pipeline ranging from repeating the Fashion Course to more trips in the field.

Field trips are ideally initiated and organised by club members. Some other ideas include having more reciprocal visits with other clubs and weekend trips away.

We will also be highlighting community events such as the Chinese light festivals, Pacific festivals and Indian festivals that now run regularly throughout Auckland

## 2010 EXTERNAL SCHEDULE

We are endeavouring in next year's schedule to also highlight the PSNZ competition circuit deadlines, other regional conventions and third party training courses that Society members regularly ask the committee about. Given the current government is reducing funding to some tertiary courses next year (e.g. basic camera handling) APS is looking at third parties such as Ollie Dales NZ Photographer.

## PROJECTED IMAGES CONVENOR

Nicola Chong is our new Projected Images convenor taking over the Slides and Digital imagery.

Nicola also joins the Committee and her input is proving very valuable.

## PRINT CONVENOR

Pre-registering prints via email has improved the flow of events on competition nights.

Need to have two print handlers

## SLIDE PROJECTION CONVENOR

Given that slides are rarely submitted on competition nights, it was decided by the committee to stop slide projection completely. Those who still take slides and would like to submit them to competitions should now scan their images to digital format for projection or printing.



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## CONVENTIONS + CELEBRATIONS

### 125 YEARS + CELEBRATIONS

Neville Bailey, Nicola Chong and Adam Baines were able to see their hard work come to fruition with the opening of the 125th Exhibition of images from past and present members on the 24th of October in the Main Auckland Library.

The images displayed were certainly the best of their day and we hope members had the opportunity to view them.



Auckland Photographic Society Inc.

APS 125th Anniversary  
Exhibition

24th Oct-7th Nov 2009

Central City Library  
2nd floor Atrium  
44-46 Lorne Street, Auckland

Images from past and current  
members of the society

Library Opening Hours  
Mon-Fri 9am-8pm  
Sat-Sun 10am-4pm

**Liz Hardley** has done it again. She recently entered images in a competition run by 'The Listener'. Her sports photo won her a brand new Panasonic Lumix compact - quite an impressive camera that allows you to take underwater shots both as stills and HD video.

Congratulations to Liz

## NEW MEMBERS

A very warm welcome to those that have recently joined the club.

**Peter Hendry, John Mead, Jennie Pantano, Glen Edwards, Fiona Bignell, Michael Engstrom, Nola Macaulay, Lindsay Matthews, Michael Liew, Alanah Paterson, Michelle Smith, Carlos Colindres Hernandez, James Lord, Carleen Pearce, Donald Foley, Janet Lewisham, Anthony Tam, Amanda Lowe, Michael Ng, Bruce Sanderson, Amy Blowers, Ji Kim, David Prentice, Rolf Siggaard, Stuart Cairns, Shirley Campbell, Gerard Charteris**

We look forward to getting to know you and trust you will enjoy your time with us. Our apologies to anyone who may have been missed from this list.

### PSNZ 2010 NORTHERN CONVENTION

As you are all aware the 2010 Northern Region Conference is being hosted by the Auckland Photographic Society on behalf of PSNZ in the later part of the year.

We are very pleased to announce Nicki Maud has taken on the role of Chairperson of the organising committee.

## MEMBER WATCH

**Chris Morton** opened his exhibition "Eye contact... Portraits in India" at the Bath Street Gallery on Friday the 9th of October. It was well attended by Society members and we even managed to get Chris on the other side of the lens!