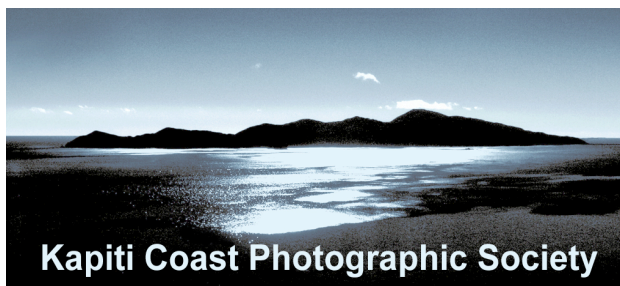


President's Report 2011

It has been another very busy and successful year for the Kapiti Coast Photographic Society.

Membership currently stands at around 50 members. As will be reported in detail at the AGM, our finances are in a healthy state, largely due to a share of the surplus from holding the PSNZ Central Regional Convention in 2010. We plan to maintain the current subscription levels for 2012.



Programme

This was very well managed by Brian Gray, together with Karyn Crocker dealing with all the competition entries (and catering). Besides our four seasonal salons we also held the Frank Hinchcliff competition, and the “best of year” will be judged at the end of year dinner on 22 November. There were a few extra events during the year, including a workshop kindly run just for us by Simon Woolf in April, and a social event at the end of October to check out our planned new venue at the Otaihanga Boating Club.

Exhibition

The KCPS “Images Showcase” was held at Kapiti Law from 29 July to 27 September. Thanks to Stephen Massey for masterminding this, together with many others who were involved in what was quite a large and successful project to showcase our talent.

Gannets Trip

Twenty-one people had a fantastic experience staying for a weekend in October at Havelock North, with the highlight being the pre-dawn start and visit to the Cape Kidnappers Gannets Colony. There were many wonderful images produced, some of which will be shown after the AGM. Huge thanks for Brian Gray for his organization of this trip, especially since he was not able to take part himself.

External Successes

These included:

- Shona Jaray achieved a well-deserved honours of Associate of the Photographic Society of New Zealand
- Shona, Peter Beddek, and myself had acceptances at the PSNZ National Exhibition (NATEX)
- Shona and Peter both made the cut for the Trans Tasman competition between PSNZ and its Australian equivalent
- KCPS won the “Palmerston Cup” at the Central Regional Convention in October for the best interclub print set, and both Shona and I did well with individual images

Monochrome Darkroom Group

This held regular meetings during the year, under the leadership of Mike Martin. The whole club benefitted from a presentation by them in September, which covered the equipment and techniques they use, and communicated something of the passion they have for the traditional “wet processes” and the magic of emerging images.

Post-Processing Group

The mid-year demise of Elizabeth Taylor Graphics, who had kindly made a room freely available for many years, meant a scramble to find an alternative, temporary, venue for this group. Thanks in particular to Rod Carter, Murray Woolcock, Peter Ellis and Hugh Scott for their efforts in maintaining and strengthening this group. It has shifted towards a tutorial/workshop format, and it will be retitled the "Development Group" next year to indicate that it is about developing skills as well as images.

Newsletter, Blog and Galleries

Thanks to Debbie Ayres who produced regular issues of the newsletter until August, when we decided to move to much more frequent and electronic communication, based on a blog format hosted (free) at wordpress.com. We have now retired our legacy website, and are using the domain name <http://kcps.org.nz> to point to the wordpress.com site. This now holds a wealth of material including salon image galleries from the last two years and a newsletter archive going right back to 2003. This new arrangement will save us around \$240 per year in website hosting fees.

New Venue from 2012

Another important decision made by the committee this year is to move to a new venue in 2012. Through Peter Beddek's excellent negotiating skills, we have struck a very good deal for the use of the Otaihangā Boating Club, three *Mondays* (1st, 2nd and 4th) each month from February to November. This means we can use it for the Development (post-processing) Group as well. All those who came to check out the Otaihangā Boating Club on 30 October were very positive and supportive of the planned move to this venue next year. We'll be seeking endorsement of this decision at the AGM.

Competition Rule Changes for 2012

The fantastic news is that we are getting increasing numbers of entries to our Salons, and from more members. For example, in the latest Salon - Spring 2011 - we had 55 images accepted from 14 members. By comparison, a year ago the Spring 2010 Salon had 45 images accepted from 12 members. But this is putting an increasing load on the judging system. The committee has decided that it makes sense to consolidate the colour and monochrome print categories (after all, PSNZ at NATEX does not distinguish between these). So, for each Salon in 2012 a member will be able enter up to two prints (colour or monochrome), and up to two digital images (also colour or monochrome, as has always been the case). The digital images can also be as large as 1600 by 1200 pixels, compared to the current 1024 by 768 pixels. Updated rules will be posted to our website soon.

Gratitude

We rely on a lot of people to help out through the year so the society can fulfil its aims and carry out all its activities. My thanks to all my fellow committee members, but in particular the vice President Ian Linning who has been a huge support. Many other KCPS members do a great deal to help out, including setting up and clearing up for the evening meetings, and in many other ways - thank you. We are very lucky also to have access to a set of excellent judges - thanks to Simon Woolf, John Boyd, Bruce Girdwood, Tony Whincup, Lance Lawson and Tracey Robinson.

Finally, thank you all for participating - we wouldn't be here without members!

I believe KCPS has had an excellent year, and is well positioned for an even better one in 2012.

Neil Gordon, President