AGM changes

Motorsports fan Terry Casey is now President of CPSNZ but there remains a vacant spot for a VP. Dave Slaten stays on the committee, which welcomes Paul Furborough and Kevin MacMillan as new members.

The AGM on October 30 saw the successful introduction of a Best in Show Award (worth a bonus point) which is expected to spice up Open competitions and Natural History ones as well, but motions put forward by John Thornton (first raised at the 2012 AGM) to bring back genre-based competitions were both lost.

Club fees will remain the same in 2015.

Newell Grenfell was elected as Patron, a position that had been vacant since the passing of Paul Kennedy.

An abridged version of Dave Slaten’s final President’s report can be read on page 3. His focus will now be on the webpages and he is looking forward to getting reacquainted with his camera.

Youth and Old Age: Old Timer by Kevin Mckay, and Sarah Crozier’s Sleeping Pixie both won honours in Open Projected Image 9: two fine examples of black and white photography. Turn to page 4 to find out how black and white photography makes visual poetry.

If you are interested in finding out more about CPS, you are welcome to attend our weekly meetings held on Wednesday nights at 8 pm at the Riccarton Community Church 44 Elizabeth Street, Riccarton.

Our website www.cpsnz.com contains a complete list of Officers, programme details, field trips, competitions and previous issues of Viewfinder available to download in PDF format.
Focus on HDR
HDR stands for higher dynamic range, a technique that enables more detail to be brought out of the shade or highlights in a raw photograph. A tutorial is being held on this topic on November 6. A photo walk on November 9 at 9am (venue to be arranged) will focus on this.

Field trip to Lake Tekapo
The lupins should be out for the last Saturday in November. It’s a long drive for a day trip so the plan is to book a holiday house and make a weekend of it. Photo ops include Lake Alexandrina, astrophotography at Mt Tekapo. Tekapo offers good views of Mt Cook and the lakeside church is a favourite with photographers. Email andrews.diana@xtra.co.nz for more information.

Battle of Images
CPSNZ won the Interclub Battle of Projected images on October 15, in a closely contested tussle with the Rangiora society, at an event held in the New Brighton club’s rooms. Images from CPSNZ were chosen beforehand by the hardworking grading committee, headed by Frank Green. A trophy will make its way around the homes of providers of the winning images.

Making the grade
Any new member is automatically granted a C grade, and this applies to experienced photographers as much as beginners. However, it is possible to jump the grades. Frank Green chairs a committee that will evaluate a portfolio of 10-12 images and enable a jump to Grade B or Grade A for experienced photographers. The usual way to move grades is through successes in the open print or projected image competitions CPSNZ runs for members, described by President Dave Slaten, when he spoke to a C grade tutorial, as the “spine of the club.” Points are awarded for acceptances (3) and honours (5). To obtain enough points a member needs to enter six out of 10 competitions and currently average over 1.6 points for B grade and 1.9 points for A grade, allowing for some non acceptances. It is possible to jump this way from C grade to A grade in one year, which Clive Collins managed last year. Perhaps the easiest way to move up the grades at the moment, Dave suggested, is through entering the Print competitions because fewer people are entering these days. You can stay in C grade as long as you like - some members prefer it that way, enjoying the field trips and the company. Once a grade is achieved it is not possible to lose grading through non-acceptances or non-participation. From here, A grade members (or anyone) can move on to the PSNZ Honours system.

PSNZ Honours System
On November 20, current PSNZ President Shona Jaray will tell members how the PSNZ awards system works. Her presentation will share sets of photographs, some of which gained the photographer PSNZ Licentiate, Associate or Fellowship awards and others, which failed. Her visit is timely because a CPSNZ support group has been set up to mentor those wanting to obtain their Licentiate (first step). Its meetings usually coincide with the C grade tutorials and are held in the Foyer of the meeting venue. You don’t need to be a PSNZ member to obtain a Licentiate but if you are planning to go further it is a requirement for the higher awards. PSNZ produces a guide to help those wanting to enter the honours system: dl.dropboxusercontent.com/u/7826421/downloads/2013_guidelines_for_psnz_photographic_honours.pdf

Talking about images
When viewing images submitted during a competition a judge may say that a photograph would be better without a border or should have been cropped or selectively brightened but we never get to see the impact of a recommended change. The Talking about Images session on October 23 allowed time, with Sebastian Krebs on the laptop, to see how a photograph looked without the submitted border and whether an image would be improved by making it vertical instead of horizontal.

International successes
Malaysian-based member Graeme Guy did very well in the recent German Mega Circuit, which attracted 6000+ entries, gaining from 72 images submitted, 67 acceptances, three honorable mentions and a medal. Meanwhile, Paul Willyams says his honour-winning Engrossed image, retitled The Reader of Romance has been accepted for the 2013 Royal Photographic Society for Screen Exhibition.

NZ Camera 2014
The Christchurch team of compilers are busy poring over images received in September for this hard cover coffee table book, sent out to all paid up PSNZ members in February, in order to showcase some of New Zealand’s best photography. Titled The Power of Three, the 2014 book will have a focus on Photography as Art. Meanwhile the 2013 book is still available for $41 plus delivery costs.
President’s report (the abridged version)

The last 12 months at CPS have had some ups and downs, just as every year does. The best ups have been saved for the end of the year and will hopefully temper some of unrealized goals put forward in November 2012.

Volunteers vital

We are constantly looking for more volunteers to help out, whether it be committee participation, supper hosts or extraordinary functions. Every time someone needs to take a break, I worry that we will never be able to fill their shoes. More often than not, thankfully, someone steps up and proves to be another one of the club’s great assets.

Belinda Carter has filled the shoes of Nancy Gibb more capably than I would have ever expected. I used to scan a number of blogs to stay current on photographic matters, but Belinda sprinkles a heap of sweet nuggets on top of the CPS news.

Catherine Smith has more than capably filled two jobs this year. She is now the sole manager of the popular MDC (and promises a much needed upgrade to the soundtrack for next year) Catherine has also stepped in as the Laurie Thomas Salon coordinator, working with Ian Andrews’ to learn the ropes and deliver to the high standard.

Clive Collins has brought a new enthusiasm to the medium of Audio Visuals, and I have no doubt CPS will find a place of excellence in short order. My favorite of Clive’s contributions was his Wow Factor events, a high intensity 25 minutes of great images and audience participation.

Behind the scenes, Mike Foster and Sebastien Krebs served as general managers of the web site, prioritising what needs to be done next. The same unlucky fella still does the coding work. This has been invaluable to my focus on the function of the site which still has room for improvement.

Our competition secretaries continue to do a stellar job, sending 1,659 images to judges for various competitions this year. We’ve had some out of the ordinary judges, who kept us on our toes, and I appreciate the effort that goes in to finding a fresh view.

The selection and grading committee have stayed on top of the game this year, bringing home some success, most recently Battle of the Digital Images.

One of our biggest events of the year, the Laurie Thomas Winter School, was as popular as ever. The core group, led by Carole Green, will be taking on the additional challenge of running the Southern Regional next year. So please share ideas with Carole to build on her history of success organizing events for CPS.

I would also like to thank committee members Mike Foster, Nelson Boustead and Terry Casey for keeping things moving.

Various events

The club continued a couple of popular events this year and added some new content as well. The well-liked Scavenger Hunt was held again in March and should continue to run as an annual event on an autumn night when our meeting facilities are not available. The night photography session(s) will also continue to run, hopefully with better weather next year. The new “Why Factor” open discussion of images has shown good attendance.

One of the dips this year was with Field Trips, which will need to be a focus for next year along with the local photo walks. CPS has been spoiled in the past with the likes of Chris Newman and the team of Barry and Sandra making these happen. A huge amount of effort goes in to organizing such activities. We have also tracked attendance over the last two years and observed a trend to dropping attendance as the year progresses. Let us know your thoughts on this.

Some regrets: CPS is not as socially oriented as I would like it to be. Changes in my job circumstances meant I was unable to support the ongoing collection and summary of the club history by Ron and Georgie McKie and work on the quality digital reproductions of our slide archive has also slowed. This asset of the club deserves to be available online for all members to see.

Financial surplus

CPS achieved a surplus in accounts this year, even in the face of a notable rent increase late last year. I know we are not meant to be a money making organization but this unexpected surplus has enabled an early bird discount applied to your renewal notices. Competitive memberships are encouraged with a 10 per cent discount, so get your subs in on time and get your images in every competition next year!

Next year, the committee plans for some capital expenditures, to bring our tutorial laptop and projector up to standard, removing our dependance on personal equipment supplied by presenters or the co-ordinator. We are also investigating a calibration tool for the club projector and a professional slide remote control would be handy.

signing off, Dave Slaten
Focus on: Black and white photography

Increasing numbers of black and white images are being entered into competitions and it would appear that black and white photography is going through a renaissance, thanks in part to digital tools that speed up and reduce the cost of image creation.

Black and white specialist Scott Fowler, who gave two inspiring tutorials on the topic to the club during October, says going without colour enables the photographer to focus on the story. “The ultimate goal is to move people with your images and a good black and white image will hold a viewer’s attention longer than a colour image.”

He says we need to learn to see in black and white, to see the highlights, the shadows and the tones between. Digitalcameraworld (see link under websites) has a useful article about seeing in black and white (tones). It suggests looking for a main subject that has a contrasting tone to the background then look for tone and textures that will add depth to the image. Use a polarising filter to darken blue skies and make objects lighter. Some photographers also find Ansel Adams’ Zone system helpful when exposing digital images (see website link at end)

Portraits can benefit from the black and white treatment, especially older craggier faces. Textures and patterns also look good in monochrome. Colour can be a distraction; it can overpower the story.

However, black and white photography is not for everyone and not appropriate for every image. Some images look better if they retain colour e.g.: red flowers on a green background, sunrises and sunsets etc.

Many of Scott Fowler’s black and white images are imaginative and surreal, blending items from different photographs together, as seen in this sample image: www.scoiwi.com/gallery_280957.html#photos_id=10222016 They win awards and show what is possible, creatively. Check out the work of Edward Weston and Sebastião Salgado online, as Scott counts them among his influences.

Digital darkroom

Unlike film photographers who shoot with black and white film, digital photographers take their images in colour and then convert them later in post processing, using a range of different software and tools.

The more RAM your computer has the better; Scott’s iMac has 32GB. Calibrate the screen, as ambient light falling on it controls what you see and it can differ from what ends up printed. Use Adobe RGB colour space to work in (the software may ask) but convert to sRGB (a creation of HP and Microsoft) later.

Although you can take a black and white photograph (monochrome) in the camera you have less control over the image. Most black and white images these days have been taken in colour and imported into post processing software. There are multiple ways to convert images to black and white. A Google search came up with the following suggestions:

- Create an adjustment layer in Photoshop and remove colour using colour sliders or hue and saturation or channel mixer.
- Free, online software such as Google’s Picasa can also remove colour
- Use a gradient map
- Convert to grayscale in Lightroom by removing saturation manually

If your camera has the option of shooting in RAW and JPEG at the same time, you can shoot a RAW colour image and a black and white JPEG.

Make sure the photograph is the best you can make it in colour, completing any adjustments before desaturating the image.

Photoshop’s Dodge and Burn tool allow you to adjust the tones and bring out hidden detail. Curves, using an adjustment layer, can increase the contrast. Remove dust.

In addition to converting images to black and white, computer software tools help photographers make the most of their images, Scott uses the following to create his international award-winning images:

Nik Software’s suite of photographic tools rival programmes like Photoshop and cost much less. If you already use Photoshop, some modules can be added as plugins instead. Scott uses, in particular:

- Efex Pro 4 - the detail extractor in this colour module is handy for picking up and eliminating dust, often most visible in skies
- Silver Efex Pro 2 - the controls available allow parts of an image to be isolated so that changes can be made locally. It can also create “emulsions” that mimic old film techniques etc, add grains and borders

Continues on page 5
Photography comes naturally at Lake Tekapo

by Carole Green

There were plenty of opportunities for all sorts of photography at the PSNZ Southern Regional held at Lake Tekapo during the first weekend of October. The theme was “Where photography comes naturally.”

We had interesting talks by expert amateur astronomer Peter Aldous, astronomy guide Freidi Hale, and Fraser Gunn on time lapse photography. Telescopes were set up outside the Lake Tekapo Hall, where attendees were able to view the amazing, clear sky on Saturday evening.

On Saturday morning we enjoyed two wonderful presentations from keynote speaker Antonia Steeg. You can read more about her and view some of her stunning images on www.antoniasteeg.com. Antonia shared with us her new project on photographing horses which will take her throughout New Zealand and Australia.

The field trip to Balmoral Station was an experience, filled with great photo opportunities: merino sheep being hand shorn, the spinning of merino wool and exploring the woolshed. Plenty of llamas were happy to be given attention and the high country girls on their horses, accompanied by their trusty dogs, kept photographers entertained for several hours.

At the banquet on Saturday night, Norma Bartrum led the singing in great style. A fun-filled rendition of “the money or the bag” led by Simon Toogoodtobetrue (better known as Simon Woolfe) had convention-goers in stitches.

CPS members who attended included Anita Kirkpatrick, Newell Grenfell, Frank and Carole Green, Bevan Tulett, Paul Furborough, Carolyn Elcock, Mike Molloy, Pam Cumming and Kevin MacMillan.

Thank you Norma and her group from Focus Aorangi for a fabulous weekend. I am sure this weekend was thoroughly enjoyed by all who attended.
Field trip to Mid Canterbury

Thanks to Sally Brake, who has returned to live in Ashburton, the planned field trip to Lake Hood on October 20 morphed into something rather different, offering a range of subject matter and settings. The daytrippers got a little dirty in Rakaia, had lunch at Coniston Gardens and an unexpected encounter with a large format camera in the Ashburton Gardens.

Down and dirty in Rakaia
Luckily for competitors, the Muddy Good Run was a fine day. Terry Casey reports that the event, held in the Rakaia Domain, began with kids’ races and most people wore some sort of costume, including CPS member Lisa Noble running with her Pink Pig friends. The fire service was on hand to top up the mud pits and clean up the runners. Some of the mud ended up plastering knees and trouser hems of photographers, who got close to the action.

Coniston Gardens
On the outskirts of Ashburton (on the Methven highway) Coniston is worth a visit in November when the rhodo blooms are at their peak. Bridges cross a small lake and an old wooden boat remains moored at the jetty. It’s not all floral, the farm is home to a highland cattle stud and there are various buildings devoted to Canterbury’s rural heritage - a relocated church (a venue for local weddings), the old Shell petrol pump, a corner store, a retired granary full of old farm paraphernalia and a garage full of vintage and classic cars. There is plenty of parking space with shady trees for picnics and you can even stay the night. To find out about the accommodation options visit the webpage www.coniston.co.nz. There is a small charge to visit the gardens.

Some other things to do
Other attractions in, or near, Ashburton include the Plains Museum and the Ashburton Aviation Museum, other viewable gardens including Trott’s and the Ashburton Gardens, the man-made recreational and residential Lake Hood, Ashford Craft Centre, the highrise, iconic Clock Tower and the vast, second hand book barn at Chertsey, said to contain books rescued from Christchurch.

Field camera graces field trip
One of the beauties of field trips is unexpected encounters, such as the impromptu tutorial on a Wista field camera in the Ashburton Gardens, provided by professional photographer Duong Hua (pictured below right). This is a field camera for pros, a large format camera that looks like it should belong at Ferrymead, but is still going strong, producing high quality commercial images for billboards. And with a swappable backs, Duong’s can handle digital as well as film.

With its distinctive, accordion-like bellows, rails and levers the camera can bend from side to side and tip backwards or forwards to take photographs. Lenses come in cages and are kept in soft drawstring bags when not in use, while the camera folds down to a footprint similar to Apple’s Mac mini. No need for a tilt shift lens, this camera also handles macro, telephoto, portraiture and wide angle landscapes with aplomb.

As Terry Casey pointed out, digital cameras still have a way to go to catch up with its capabilities.

However, the Wista’s not so hot when it comes to capturing action, which is probably why it was nowhere to be seen at the Muddygoodrun in Rakaia.

Duong’s field camera attaches to a Benbo, a solid-looking tripod that offers photographers additional options for camera positioning without sacrificing stability. Crisp images appear upside down when viewed underneath a black cover.

For a closer look at the very bendy Wista field camera check out this website: chemicalcameras.wordpress.com/wista-45n and for an introduction to large format photography visit www.largeformatphotography.info

Thanks to Sally Brake, who has returned to live in Ashburton, the planned field trip to Lake Hood on October 20 morphed into something rather different, offering a range of subject matter and settings. The daytrippers got a little dirty in Rakaia, had lunch at Coniston Gardens and an unexpected encounter with a large format camera in the Ashburton Gardens.

Photos: Terry Casey
Brief Snapshots

**Drive in now home to Ken’s Cameras**
Ken’s Cameras now has room to spread out in its new premises in Victoria Street. While it doesn’t offer drive through sales yet (the building is a former petrol station), it does sell good cameras, accessories and is well known for its printing services. You can visit their website: [www.kens.co.nz](http://www.kens.co.nz)

**Ellesmere through a lens**
Entries have closed for this Waikura Ellesmere Trust competition but if you want to see how others see Lake Ellesmere, in sculpture and painting as well as photography drive, cycle or bus out to Lincoln University on November 7 or 8.

**Oamaru dresses up**
If A and P shows aren’t your thing but taking photos of heritage buildings or elaborate Victorian dress is, then spend the long weekend (November 14-17) in Oamaru, culminating in a old-time fete on the Sunday. The steampunk capital is also known for its tiny penguins, Janet Frame (her family house can be visited), and is close to the Moeraki Boulders and Riverstone Restaurant. The theme this year, to celebrate 150 years in Oamaru, is explorers and adventurers. For more detailed information visit: [vhc.co.nz/index.html](http://vhc.co.nz/index.html)

**Dunedin Festival of Photography**
Entries have closed to this exhibition but if you happen to be down south this month, the photos (open, natural history and photo journalism) are being exhibited in the Community Gallery in Princes Street from November 10 -17. This is the 44th time the event has been held.

**Libraries hunt photos**
Christchurch Libraries is on the hunt again for photographs of pre-quake Christchurch and yours could net you a tablet or e-reader. Deadline: 5pm November 17.

**New gallery for Sumner**
Maja Moritz, who judged a competition for CPSNZ earlier this year, is opening a photo gallery/studio in Sumner at 141 Nayland Street. Opening day is November 17 and the gallery will be open from 11am till 5pm, Wednesday to Sunday thereafter.

**Student photographs**
Check out the photos (and other artworks) produced by students at CPIT in an exhibition called RIPE being held in the Rakaia Centre (off Madras Street) from November 12-15 and 18-21.

**Photo Symposium**
Local group Photography with Pixels is holding a photo symposium in Christchurch on November 10, Topics include knowing your camera, portraiture, travel and street photography, landscapes and nature. Speakers include Newell Grenfell, Ron Willems and others. [www.photopnz.com/events/photo-symposium.aspx](http://www.photopnz.com/events/photo-symposium.aspx)

**Time of your life on the ice**
Fancy chilling out for a fortnight in January next year? Two weeks in Antarctica, all expenses paid? One lucky person will get to blog, photograph and write about the scientific research happening down there, in the company of National Geographic photographer Jason Edwards, thanks to a competition being organised by Air New Zealand. It’s a bit of a lengthy process getting selected, starting with writing a commentary or recording a voiceover to one of two films, one on Adelie penguins and the other on ice landscapes. To start the process visit the website: [www.airnewzealand.com/voiceforantarctica](http://www.airnewzealand.com/voiceforantarctica) but get your skates on, as the competition closes on November 7.

**Methven Summer School**
The Methven Summer School is offering a day-long class aimed at weaning would-be photographers off auto. The course will be held at Mt Hutt College on Sunday, January 12. Tutor Carole Atkinson is also running a photo editing course on January 7, using Google’s Picasa. Lots of other courses too during the week January 6-12, such as making hats, carving limestone or learning to drive a jetboat. For more information visit [www.methvensummerschool.co.nz](http://www.methvensummerschool.co.nz)

**PSNZ National Convention 2014**
The PSNZ’s 62nd National Convention is being hosted by the Marlborough Camera Club in Blenheim’s convention centre from in April 23-27. Among the presenters are Peter Eastaway, Tony Hewitt and Chris Gladstone (EQ and Police Forensic photographer) Field trips inlude a visit to Peter Jackson’s Omaka aviation Heritage Centre. The Nelson Club has taken on responsibility for the associated National Exhibition, known as Natex. Keep a watch on the website: [coloursofmarlborough.org.nz](http://coloursofmarlborough.org.nz) for further information.

**Laurie Thomas Winter Salon 2014**
If you enjoyed Kaikoura in July, then look forward to the next salon in Tekapo in late July 2014. Speakers include Graham Dainty and Ferg Campbell and others. Don’t rush to register though as registrations don’t open until February.
Monthly Digital Challenge: Rolling Stones song titles

*Give me Shelter*
by Keith Sycamore

*Highwire*
by Andrew Thomson

*Too Rude*
by Sandra Hobbs

*Shoo-get off my cloud*
by Anita Kirkpatrick

*It’s all over now*
by Clive Collins
# Natural History Prints#2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Accepted</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gavin James</td>
<td>Albatross Species Head Shot</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gavin James</td>
<td>North Island Bush Robin</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Annette Preen</td>
<td>Cygnus atratus-Juvenile colour</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Paul Willyams</td>
<td>Tui in the rain</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annette Preen</td>
<td>Loxodonta africana - Botswana</td>
<td></td>
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## Honours

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Michael Molloy</th>
<th>Dusky Dolphin - Delphinus delphis Kaikoura NZ</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Anita Kirkpatrick</td>
<td>Kereru Attack Triptych</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Clive Collins</td>
<td>Hutton’s Shearwater Puffinus huttoni</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Jou Khiang Kueh</td>
<td>Ascomycetes - C. tricholoma - Cup Fungus</td>
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*Jou Khiang Kueh’s Cup Fungus appears top. Clive Collins caught this shearwater on the wing in Kaikoura and Michael Molloy’s Dusky Dolphin formed this arch right in front of him. Anita Kirkpatrick found these two Kereru squabbling and made this framed triptych out of it.*
Open Print #5

**Acceptances**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Anita Kirkpatrick</td>
<td>Art of Dirt Biking</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sebastian Krebs</td>
<td>Deconstruction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Juliette Capaldi</td>
<td>Grandfather and grandson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gavin James</td>
<td>Playing Bass</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gavin James</td>
<td>Nancy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sebastian Krebs</td>
<td>Pathway to the Sun</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paul Willyams</td>
<td>Pay no heed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annette Preen</td>
<td>Perfect paddocks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michael Molloy</td>
<td>Shave</td>
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<tr>
<td>Paul Furborough</td>
<td>South Bay Kaikoura Sunset</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ann Bastion</td>
<td>Tentacles of softness</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fernandez Barrett</td>
<td>The Coliseum, Macau</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anita Kirkpatrick</td>
<td>The Holy Trinity</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dennis Pointer</td>
<td>The hunt</td>
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<tr>
<td>Annette Preen</td>
<td>Wind flower</td>
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<td>Paul Willyams</td>
<td>Woman in Black</td>
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**Honours**

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<thead>
<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Clive Collins</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fernandez Barrett</td>
<td>Metamorphosis</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ian Walls</td>
<td>Middlegate Road, Norfolk Island</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michael Molloy</td>
<td>Mud Run</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Barbara Burry</td>
<td>Governors Bay Gum</td>
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*A selection of photographs from the Open Print competition: Ian Walls’ photo of Norfolk Island, Sebastian Krebs shows a familiar Christchurch scene in *Deconstruction*, Fernandez Barrett gets down low in Macau and Gavin James captures *Playing Bass*.**
## Acceptances

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Katrina Easton</td>
<td>Dahlia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annemarie Beukman</td>
<td>A cup of flower</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Raewyn Wright</td>
<td>Awakening City</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paul Furborough</td>
<td>Where Lines Get Crossed</td>
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<tr>
<td>Michael Molloy</td>
<td>Playful</td>
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<tr>
<td>Harry Ruffell</td>
<td>Leg Story</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wendy Pointer</td>
<td>Magnolia</td>
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<tr>
<td>Juliette Capaldi</td>
<td>Feeding Time</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alex Browning</td>
<td>Winter Warmer</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jo Curtis</td>
<td>Creation - in its own image</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gavin James</td>
<td>Nancy</td>
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<tr>
<td>Barbara Burry</td>
<td>Survival on the Edge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Newell Grenfell</td>
<td>Amy Loves to Draw</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sandra Hobbs</td>
<td>Southern Alps</td>
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<td>Jou Khiang Kueh</td>
<td>Sea Gypsies</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sebastien Krebs</td>
<td>Star Trails and Aurora</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dennis Pointer</td>
<td>Corner mayhem</td>
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<td>Geoff Trotter</td>
<td>Sleepless Self</td>
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<td>Kevin McKay</td>
<td>Old Timer</td>
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<td>Sarah Crozier</td>
<td>Sleeping Pixie</td>
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<td>Anita Kirkpatrick</td>
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<td>Patti Madsen</td>
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Sebastian Krebs stayed up late one night on the Port Hills to capture **Star Trails and Aurora**, Geoff Trotter has been a bit sleepless of late with a new baby in the house while Dennis Pointer caught the action in **Corner Mayhem**. Annette Preen’s **Encased** demonstrates selective use of colour in a monochrome image.
Hyperlapse photography
Take a series of photographs e.g.: one every ten seconds or so and that is called Time Lapse Photography. It’s a popular way of capturing photos of flowers growing and buds opening and is a feature of nature programmes. The camera stays still. Hyperlapse goes one step further and moves the camera. It’s more popular with urban scenes as the tripod is more easily moved along flat ground. You don’t need any fancy equipment, just a camera with live view and an 18-44mm lens and a tripod. Use manual focus and find something you can line the lens up with and keep at the same level. Shots are usually around one second, an ND filter will help during daytime shoots. Any blurring aids in the smooth viewing later. Import into Lightroom to brighten one image and sync the changes to the remaining shots (if the lighting in the scene stays the same), use After Effects to stabilise the images before importing into Final Cut Pro. The tip for this comes from the talented 20 year old owner of Rustadmedia.com.

Raindrops on roses
Purchase an atomiser or spray bottle from Storage Box or similar, fill it with water and you have your own rainmaker. Spray the roses or leaves with a fine mist. Well, if Brian Brake can fake a monsoon… who will know whether the rain came from the sky or a bottle?

Blurred backgrounds (computer-aided)
You can blur backgrounds using depth of field in the camera to make the object of your focus stand out. Or with the aid of a computer you can create a duplicate of the background layer in Photoshop (or similar) and apply a Gaussian Blur. Add a Layer Mask and then brush carefully over the area that will remain sharp. (Source: Outdoor Photography, March 2012 50 Tips)

New iPad mini packs in the pixels
It might be here by Christmas but the new iPad mini now has Retina and, because the pixels fit into a smaller space, a higher resolution than the larger iPad (known as iPad Air). The mini has 326 pixels per inch, making it ideal for showing off photographs. It can also be used for editing photos, sending emails, playing games etc. Apple’s iPad connectors enable photos to be downloaded from your camera although with the increasing use of wifi (enabled cameras or eyefi cards) these will eventually become redundant. The 7.9 inch iPad mini can be slipped into a handbag or large pocket. Finding Liveview too small? If you know how to link your iPad to your camera you can take advantage of the bigger screen it offers.

Mac updates
Apple has updated its operating system for laptops and iMacs (some as recent as 2007) and there are reports that Creative Cloud apps eg: Photoshop are incompatible. The CC versions are the downloadable, pay by the month versions of Adobe’s software being foisted on users. Earlier versions of the creative suite don’t have the same problem but you might need to update Java. 10.9, nick-named Mavericks after a US west coast bay, is free to download from the App store. iPhoto, for those who continue to use it, has also been updated.

Flying camera for Christmas?
With Christmas less than two months away here’s a fun present idea if funding is no object. Parrot produces a drone made of carbon fibre and high resistance plastic which you match up with a free iPhone and Android app, called AR FreeFlight, to take photos and videos up to 165 feet away. Try out on cheap cameras until you get the hang of piloting the remote device. The iPad or iPhone with software is tilted to make the device fly. Video footage and photos are also viewed on the screen live thanks to wifi and can be easily uploaded to the Internet. Technology similar to this was used post quake in 2011 to determine damage inside the cathedrals. The software may be free but the hardware will set you back around $500. It can also be used to play augmented reality games but we would only use it as a photographic tool. Right?