

# President's Report

## to the Annual General Meeting

### of the Wellington Photographic Society

#### 8 August 2019

#### **Introduction**

I am pleased to report upon the activities of the Wellington Photographic Society for the year ended

30 June 2019. In this second and final year of my Presidency, the Society has continued to grow and progress, thanks to the efforts of an enthusiastic committee and the ongoing participation and support of the membership.

So a big thank you to all of you for your contributions to WPS.

It has been a time when we have heard from a variety of interesting and inspiring speakers, organised a number of workshops, meetups and field trips, and embarked upon a number of new ventures.

#### **Membership**

As at the end of June our membership stood at 117, of whom 37 have joined in the past two years. This is the net figure after a cull of non-financial members. The committee has also agreed to change to a rolling membership year for new members. In future, new members who join part way through the year will pay a full membership fee which again will fall due on the anniversary of their joining

#### **Finances**

As you will see in the financial report by our outgoing Treasurer Philip Dyer, the Society remains in a strong position, ending the year with a surplus of \$3,216 as seen in the statement of financial performance. No significant capital expenditure was incurred this year and our efforts in organising the PSNZ Canon National Exhibition of Photography 2019 gave our finances a welcome boost.

#### **Speakers**

Looking back over the year, we were privileged to hear from some inspiring and talented photographers. Paul Hoelin (abstract landscape photography), Hagen Hopkins (sports photography), Jason Naylor (wedding photography), Jordyn O'Keefe (impressionist photography), Lindsay Keats (travel photography), Michael Farr (mobile photography),

Catherine Adam (documentary photography), Grant Sheehan (landscape and travel photography), Stuart Clook and Ben McNulty (film photography), Paul Whitham (building your portfolio), Athol McCredie ( NZ photographers of the 60's and 70's), Chris Helliwell (nature photography) and Carolyn Robertson (food photography) make up an impressive list.

### **Celebrating 150 Years of the Botanic Gardens**

The Botanic Garden Fresh Shoots competition was a new venture for us, working with the Wellington City Council in holding four seasonal photographic workshops and events as part of the celebrations of the Gardens 150th birthday. This was most capably organised by Gail Teale and featured sessions led by Jordyn O'Keefe, Mary Hutchinson, Richard Young and Mark Berger. It was a good example of the Society reaching out to the wider photographic community.

### **The Royal Port Nicholson Yacht Club 20th Anniversary Regatta**

A small team of WPS photographers covered this event for the yacht club in February and caught some exciting action on the water. In return for some sponsorship we provided the club with three matted prints of their choosing and a photobook commemorating the event

### **PSNZ Canon National Exhibition of Photography 2019**

A major undertaking for WPS in the past year was the decision to organise the PSNZ Canon National Exhibition of Photography 2019. This was held in conjunction with the National Convention that was hosted by the Hutt Camera Club. It was originally mooted as a joint venture by all the clubs in the Wellington Region, but in the end it largely fell upon our shoulders and I rather reluctantly took on the job of chairing the committee

The exhibition was an outstanding success but involved a huge amount of work beforehand. I cannot thank the members of the organising committee enough: Russ Finnerty, Peter Rodgers, Craig Phillips (Johnsonville Camera Club) and Christine Jacobson (Kapiti Camera Club) with Mike Drain doing a great job with the Audio visual presentations and Shannon Doyle producing a stunning revamped catalogue for the exhibition. Both the hanging of the exhibition and the earlier selection weekend required a large number of WPS volunteers and it was gratifying to see the enthusiastic response to our call for assistance. Thank you all.

### **Annual Exhibition 2018**

The annual exhibition was held at a new venue this year; at the Green Gallery in Newtown. It provided an attractive and well lit space and we resurrected the Society's set of frames and mattes to display the work of our members to best advantage. A frantic effort was needed to get all the images matted and framed in time but we made it!

### **Competitions**

In addition to our traditional Society Projected Image and Print competitions we also held two new events open to all :- they were the Mobile Photography competition and the Film Photography Competition held early in the year.

The results were:

### **Club Print Competition 2018**

Open:

Winner:-Glen Innes

Highly Commended:-

Fred Wotton

Ross Collins

Keith Molloy

Special Theme:- White

Winner:- Glen Innes

Highly Commended:-

Ewa Ginal-Cumblidge

Hilary Troup

Syd Moore

Fred Wotton

Ross Collins

### **Club Projected Image Competition 2019**

Winner:- Donna Jennings

Animals

Highly Commended :-Ewa Ginal-Cumblidge

Commended :-Ross Collins

Abstract

Highly Commended :- Rick Spencer

Honourable Mention:- Justin Blaikie

Landscape

Highly Commended:- GlenWheatley, Miles Dean

Portrait

Highly commended:- Mel Keith

Still Life

Highly Commended:-Miles Dean

### **Mobile Photography Competition**

This competition saw the largest amount of submissions for a WPS competition in a few years which was pleasing to see! We also tried a few new elements with this competition,

with entry being available across both Instagram and our website. We had a few hiccups but overall it was great to see so many people get involved.

A big thank you to our competition sponsors, Havana Coffee, Fix & Fogg, Six Barrel Soda and Wellington Photographic Supplies for supplying us with items for a nice little prize package.

Open Section:- Winner:- Clive Piggott  
Summer theme:- Winner:- Lola Makower

## **Film Photography Competition**

In March we had a focus on Film photography with both a competition and some great speakers on the topic.

Film photography has seen a healthy resurgence in Wellington in the last year, with two new businesses, WFL & Splendid opening and even Wellington Photographic Supplies introducing Film Camera rentals and their own recent competition.

Our film contest was well supported, with many entries and many new members coming onboard as a result. The quality of the submissions was also really top drawer.

I'd also like to thank Ben and Stuart for their great presentation on Film Photography, both of these guys know their stuff and were really interesting to hear from.

**1st Place** - Reid McLeay

**2nd Place** - Lewis Ferris

## **Other**

We also hosted the Wellington Region Interclub Print Competition in August 2018 where our set of ten images was placed 5th.

We also submitted entries in the annual PSNZ print and projected image competitions for affiliated clubs.

During the year several of our members took part in Salons, Conventions and Competitions run by the PSNZ, including the Regional Convention in Whanganui and the National Convention in Lower Hutt

Congratulations to Carol Anderson APSNZ and Peter Rodgers LPSNZ on gaining their Honours in 2018 and 2019 respectively.

## **Society Awards**

At our meeting in December 2018 three awards were made:

- Photographer of the Year : - Keith Molloy

- Emerging Photographer of the Year:- Ewa Ginal-Cumblidge
- Outstanding Contribution to the Society:- Shannon Doyle

## **Media and Publicity**

The profile of the Society remains high, thanks to the superb work of Shannon Doyle and his team of other contributors to our publication Impact. Our website and Facebook page continue to provide a popular portal for the wider public to the activities undertaken by the Society and extend our reach into the community.

In November 2018, we launched the WPS Discussion and Mentoring Group on Facebook which targets a general audience of photographers rather than just our own members. It has been really successful and congratulations are due to Shannon Doyle for this initiative.

## **Other Events**

A number of meet ups and walk arounds have been held throughout the year and all have enjoyed the opportunity to get out and take photographs with their colleagues. Both the mobile photography and low light photography events were very well supported.

I particularly enjoyed the opportunities made available by Murray MacKenzie to shoot cycling at the Velodrome, the Saints basketball team and the One Dance Ballroom Dancing Championships.

Thanks too to Shannon Doyle and Mel Keith for hosting a OneLight workshop and showing a number of our members the amazing results that can be achieved with basic studio lighting.

## **Sponsorship**

During the year we received sponsorship from a number of firms

Wellington Photographic Supplies

Havana Coffee

Six Barrel Soda

Fix and Fogg

## **Committee**

There are a number of changes in the committee for 2109/20. Philip Dyer, Julie Brixton and Brendon Lang are not seeking re-election and Ewa Ginal-Cumblidge has recently shifted to Western Australia. I would like to thank them most warmly for their contributions to WPS and for the assistance they have given me over my term. Shannon Doyle, Donna Jennings and Lee McLauchlan are continuing members. Gail Teale finishes her role as Immediate Past President this year and Gail I thank you for your help and assistance over the past twelve months.

It is pleasing to welcome Raymond Cho, Keith Molloy and Mel Keith onto the committee and Peter Rodgers, who is returning to the committee after some time away.

My best wishes go to incoming President Shannon Doyle. Shannon has already made an immense contribution to the Society with his enthusiasm, innovation and knowledge and I am sure that he and the new committee will take WPS on to greater heights in the coming year.

To you, as members of Wellington Photographic Society, continue to enjoy your photography, develop your skills and share the knowledge and camaraderie of your fellow members.

Glen Innes

President

30 July 2019