

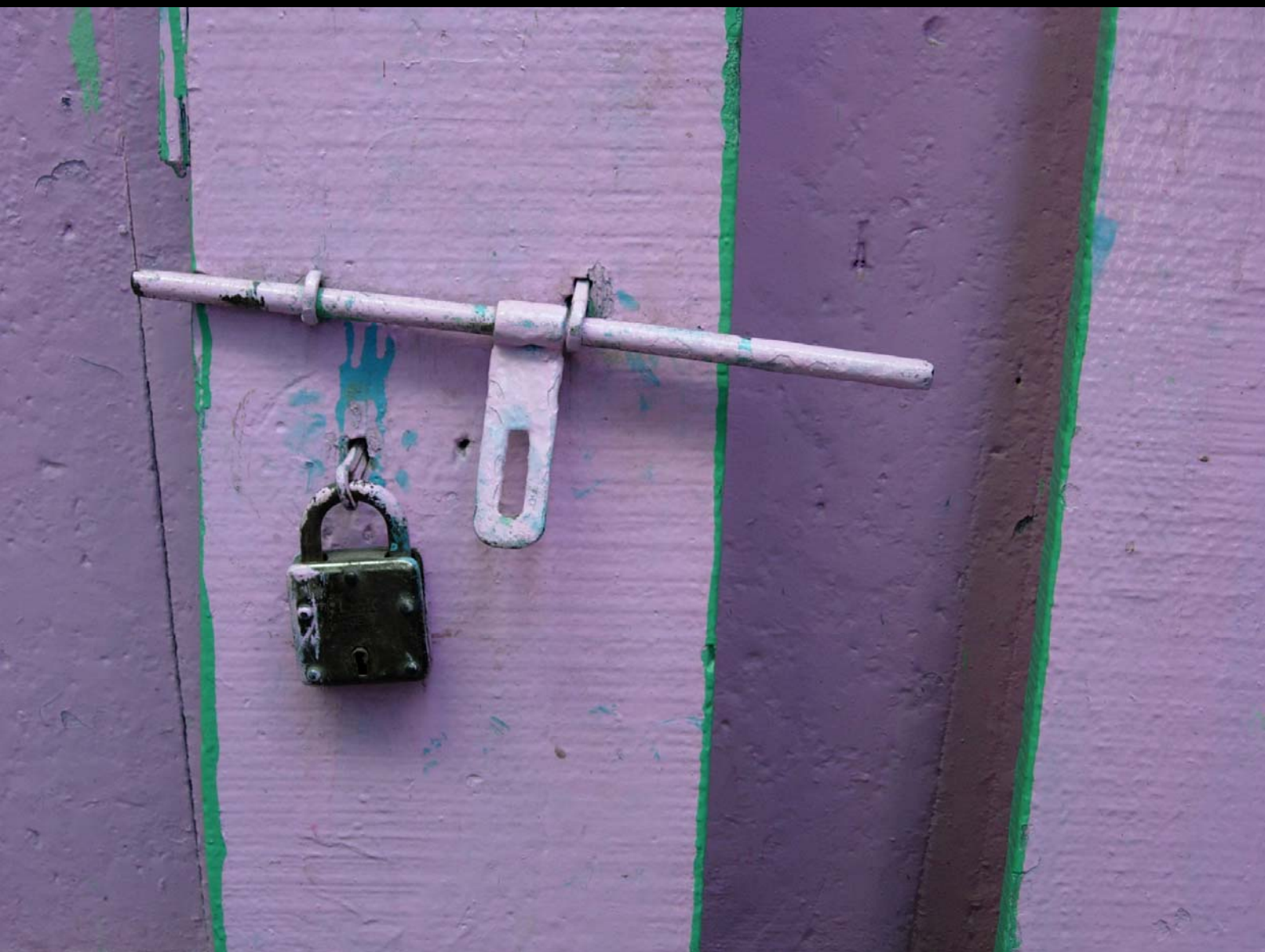


IMPACT!

AUGUST 07

NEWSLETTER OF THE WELLINGTON PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY INC. (ESTD. 1892)

www.wps.org.nz



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Cover image: "Locked in lilac" by Arti Sandhu

PRES SEZ

At our 10 July meeting, Rob Suisted described himself as a wildlife and natural history photographer who strives to capture beauty in the New Zealand wilderness. His self-confessed deep appreciation of New Zealand's natural history was apparent in the photographs he showed us. Rob shoots both film and digital and commented on the temptation when shooting digital to grab the shot and then try to improve on it later in the editing process. With film, the discipline is tighter in that there's often less latitude for manipulation later on.

Rob also talked about his image library and how he shoots for this. After long experience, he's able to visualise a prospective image as a candidate for a magazine cover shot or other application. He gave great emphasis to the combination of careful observation and the 'decisive moment' (made famous by Henri Cartier-Bresson) and showed us several examples of where split-second timing had been successful (and some where it hadn't). The shots I recall include the deer standing atop the pile of hay on the trailer during feeding out (which made the cover of *NZ Deerstalker*) and the bird perched momentarily on the flax stem against the blue background of a lake. Both had obvious commercial potential but not necessarily the fine aesthetic that makes a truly memorable shot – like the stunning photograph of the tui where the sheen of its feathers stood out against a near black background. It was a shot that could not have been taken anywhere but New Zealand.

One of the distinguishing features of many of Rob's photographs was the use of shallow depth of field. Shooting wide open gave him considerable latitude to work with rapidly changing circumstances and subjects, but requires very accurate focusing. He recounted a story where a photographer he worked with practised shooting with the (prime) lens pre-focused so he could aim and fire immediately without having to think about focus. This sort of approach facilitates capturing the decisive moment because, as Rob put it, you can snap anything in the instant that you notice it – as soon as you notice anything different, shoot it!

As we move into the second half of the year, we have several significant events coming up. The Interclub Print Battle is on August 14 (details in the "What's on" column), the AGM is on 11 September, and the selection of images for the WPS Annual Exhibition is on 23 October.

We've already selected images for the Interclub Print Battle, so the next stage is to see how we stack up against the other clubs around Wellington! I hope to see you there – it's a fun affair and vigorous support for the home team is part of the deal, so we're looking to see if we can outdo our neighbours not only in photographic excellence but also in the support we give to our entries! It's also a good opportunity to meet other photographers from the Wellington area and see what they're doing. As the hosts this year, WPS will also provide refreshments so at the very least you'll get a cup of tea or coffee and something to eat!

The AGM is your chance to elect members on to the Committee that you consider will best serve the interests of the Society for 2008. Nominations are called for in this issue of *Impact* and I encourage you to take advantage of the opportunity to put any names forward (with their permission of course!). We are very fortunate to have an experienced, competent and dedicated Committee this year, but the positions are all voluntary and ongoing support is needed to keep up the high standard of services and events that make WPS one of New Zealand's premier photographic societies.

Finally, the WPS Annual Exhibition is not on until November, and selection of images will take place on 23 October. Given the time it can take to choose the images you want to submit, edit and print them, and matte them, it's not too soon to start giving this some consideration. The Annual Exhibition is a major event in the Wellington arts calendar and attracts considerable public interest. This year we have secured the St James Gallery (first floor in the St James Theatre) in Courtenay Place, so we're assured of a high level of exposure.

Brett Longley

Acting Editor's Note ...

My first task as acting editor is to thank our departing editor, Arti Sandhu, for the great job she has done with *Impact*. The re-design she did has given the newsletter a great refresh and she has made it very easy for me to take over from her.

As part of my thank-you to Arti, I have put one of her pictures on the cover (although she probably won't thank me for doing that!). I hope we get to see some more of Arti's work. Send us some great pictures from Chicago please, Arti.

And, all members of WPS, please send me your pictures for possible inclusion in *Impact*. You can e-mail them to me at:

fifteen.warrington@xtra.co.nz

Or give them to me at a meeting. I'd be also happy to borrow a print and scan it.

Peter Rodgers



'On watch' by John Boyd
(entry in 2007 WPS Projected Image Competition)

What's on in August

Interclub Print Battle

- **Tuesday, 14 August**
- **Johnsonville Uniting Church, 18 Dr Taylor Terrace, Johnsonville**
(see the map on the last page)
- **7.30pm**

The Interclub Print Battle is being held on a regular club night because this year WPS is hosting the other four participating clubs, namely Hutt, Kapiti, Karori and Waikanae. Because of the increased numbers expected to attend from the five clubs, our regular meeting place at the Arts Centre is not big enough for the number of people expected to attend, and therefore this meeting night will be held at the Johnsonville Uniting Church, 18 Dr Taylor Terrace, Johnsonville.

The map on the last page of this *Impact* shows the location of the Uniting Church, which is two minutes walk from Johnsonville railway station and bus interchange.

Parking is available along Dr Taylor Terrace and in Wanaka Street, and there is plenty of off-street parking by the Johnsonville railway station.

If you like a fun evening accompanied with good photographs, this is a meeting not to miss. We would encourage as many of our members as possible to attend this meeting and support our efforts to come out top. The power of a supportive crowd cannot be underestimated. WPS won the "battle" last year – help us win again this year.

Creating audio-visual presentations using software

- Kevin Cook and Mike Drain

- **Monday, 27 August**
- **The Arts Centre, 61-69 Abel Smith Street**
- **7.30pm**

Many older members will have progressed through presentations using transparencies in a slide projector and music from a tape deck to using applications like PowerPoint, but the range of software available now is huge and varied and gives enormous latitude for creative input. While some photographers have their favourite applications, if you're new to AVs, the range of options available can look like a minefield. The purpose of this session is to provide members with some pointers about how to

match software to the purpose and style of your presentation, and to give a flavour of what's possible in terms of interesting ways to put an AV together.

Kevin and Mike are long-term members of WPS and met in the late 1980s. Both have AV experience, in their jobs and through their interest in photography. Kevin works as an AV and multimedia technician at Victoria University's Faculty of Architecture and Design, looking after AV equipment and producing media for staff and helping students produce AVs for their work. Mike is a lecturer at the Victoria University College of Education, teaching trainee teachers how to use technology.



'Sticking Up Gully' by Alan Knowles

What's on in September

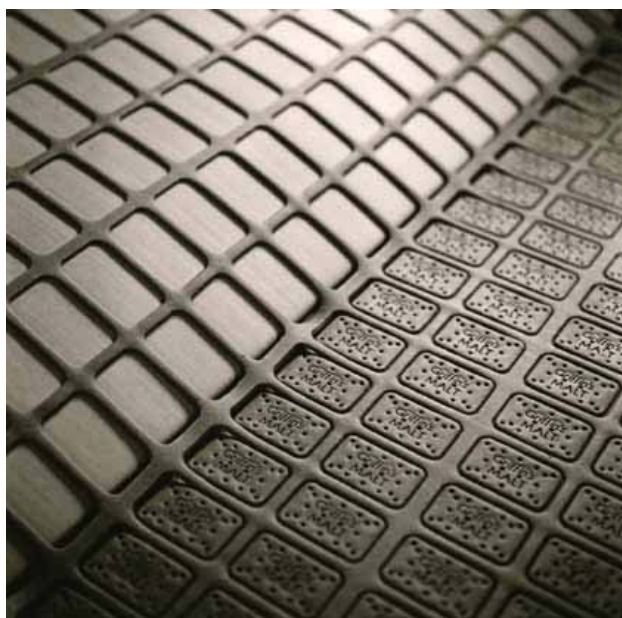
Fine Art Photography - Alan Knowles (following WPS AGM)

- Tuesday, 11 September
- The Arts Centre, 61-69 Abel Smith Street
- 7.30pm

Alan Knowles was born in Queenstown in 1948 and assisted his photographer father, Doug Knowles, in the darkroom from age six, stirring the hypo and feeding prints into the glazer. His decision to pick up a camera in earnest had much to do with time spent listening to his father analyse photographs in the *Otago Daily Times* and the *Weekly News* suggesting crops to improve the image. "We spent hours discussing photographs and composition," Alan said. "My dad taught me about thirds, depth of field, how to use diagonals and triangles, understanding contrast latitude of film, using light, and shooting into the sun for dramatic effect. He also taught me that all rules were made to be broken."

Alan Knowles has been exhibiting both in New Zealand and overseas since 1996 when he spent a year as photographer-in-residence at the NZ School of Dance. His work is published in the book *Wildflower City - Wellington New Zealand*. The exhibition *Biscuits*, of photographs taken at the Griffin's Factory in Lower Hutt, is presently touring New Zealand. In 2006, two unions contracted him to produce photographs to raise the profile of aged care workers – the photo essay was published in *Kai Tiaki Nursing New Zealand*. In late 2006 he exhibited *Tailings*, photographs of Central Otago mining landscapes; and his photos taken in Wellington Hospital were published with Rachel Bush's poems in *All Patients Report Here*. This year, his photo essay *Otaki Beach Motor Camp* was exhibited at the Otaki Museum.

'6-12 Scrap return incline (Malt)' by Alan Knowles
From the exhibition *Biscuits*



Storage of prints, slides & digital files

- Monday, 24 September
- The Arts Centre, 61-69 Abel Smith Street
- 7.30pm

A team of WPS members (Jenny Dey, Alistair Owens and Fred Wotton) will talk on and show their methods of storing and retrieving prints and slides. Alistair McAra (Mr Pinhole) will then explain the latest programs for storing and retrieving digital images. The four presenters will then form a panel to answer questions from the floor.

Photographic Competitions

Interclub Print Battle – 14 August 2007

Selection of the images for the Interclub battle was done by popular vote during the meetings on 10 and 23 July. Thank you to everyone who put their images forward for selection. There were some great images and we certainly had plenty to select from. The entries selected were:

1. Repetition	Lyn Pollock
2. Action	Fred Wotton
3. Weathered	Mike Drain
4. Panorama	Fred Wotton
5. Seashore	Jenaro Garita
6. Reflections	Jane Tweedy
7. Shadows	Fred Wotton
8. Duet. (two of a kind)	Jenaro Garita
9. Caught unawares	Catherine Cattnach
10. Texture	Keith Miller
11. Cityscape	Alistair Owens
12. Fantasy	Jenaro Garita



'Seaweed sweep' by Trisha Hehir
(entry in 2007 WPS Projected Image Competition)

Having a good set of images is not all we need on the night of the Print Battle on 14 August. This is a fun evening and the power of a parochial supportive crowd on the night cannot be underestimated. WPS are hosting the event this year, so come along to the Johnsonville Uniting Church to support your Society and have a great "fun" evening. Starting time 7.30pm as usual.

Central Regional Convention, Gisborne, 9-11 November 2007

Competition details have just been announced.

Interclub Prints:	6 images to form a set
Interclub Projected Image (digital):	8 images (no requirement to form a set, i.e. eight best images required)
Individual Digital Salon:	2 digital images maximum per person.

All entries close on 1 October.

The Central Regional Convention programme, registration forms and entry forms for the Individual Digital Salon may be downloaded from the WPS website.

Central Regional Interclub Competitions

WPS members must submit their prints and digital projected images for consideration for selection in the WPS Central Regional Interclub sets at the 11 September meeting. Details of how to submit digital images will be advised later to all members. Any member unable to attend the meeting on 11 September may leave their prints at Wellington Photographic Supplies, 11-15 Vivian St. Wellington up to 5pm on 11 September.

'Kids dancing frenzy' by Jane Tweedy
(entry in 2007 WPS Projected Image Competition)



Exhibitions & Shows

- Friends Influences and Inspirations
- Epson Iris Award Touring Exhibition

- Now until 10 Aug
- Entry: Free
- Location: The Westpac St James, Courtenay Place.

The Westpac St James is hosting two exhibitions until Friday, 10 August.

Friends Influences and Inspirations is an exhibition of some of Australia's finest photographers, and has been touring NZ over the last year to rave reviews. The Ronald Woolf Memorial Trust has bought it to NZ, and the images generously loaned by the exhibiting photographers.

The Epson Iris Award Touring Exhibition is the NZIPP's flagship, which contains an array of NZ professional photographers award winning images.

The images in both exhibitions are in the awesome category. Both exhibitions have been greatly supported by Epson, with The Epson Iris Award images all having been printed on an Epson 9800 wide format printer, while many of the Australian images also have been printed using the latest Epson printing technology.

Flowers and Foliage - Photographs by Peter Black and Robert Mapplethorpe

- 22 Feb - 13 Aug 2007
- Entry: Free
- Location: Ilott Room, Level 4, Te Papa

Flowers and Foliage showcases two portfolios of photographs, each containing images of controlled and restrained nature. One is by the celebrated and often controversial American photographer Robert Mapplethorpe, the other by Wellington photographer Peter Black.



Image by Matthew Wanden
(entry in 2007 WPS Projected Image Competition)

Collecting Photographers

- 12 Jul -19 Aug 2007
- Entry: Free
- Location: Shed 11, Wellington Waterfront (daily from 10am - 4pm)

The New Zealand Centre for Photography exhibition "Collecting Photographers" showcases 11 contemporary Wellington-based photographers and the colleagues who inspired them. The featured photographers include Wayne Barrar, Janet Bayly, Peter Black, Ben Cauchi, Bruce Connew, Alannah Gunter, Alan Knowles, Anne Noble, Mary Macpherson, Andrew Ross and Jo Russ.

I saw you... - Bruce Connew

- 18 July - 11 August
- Location: Mary Newton Gallery, 150 Vivian Street

Taken from his house overlooking the harbour and a public car park, Bruce Connew spent a year photographing the activities in and around the car park. "For twelve months, from the top floor of home, veiled behind an apron of black velvet, through double-glazing and a long lens, I photographed the comings and goings of a car park, an ample piece of reclaimed Wellington land that juts out into a bay, a family beach to one side. Surveillance is routine nowadays. It's everywhere. We've come to expect it; we've even come to embrace it. It promises social order. It makes us feel safer. I peered in on people's lives, sneaked up on their susceptibilities as they busied themselves mostly in ordinary ways, minding their own business, when they could reasonably expect no one to be watching – private moments in a public space. Then I took away some of their identity and shuffled them together." The exhibition is comprised of 52 photographs and is accompanied by a book and a short film.

New Zealand Photographs 1979-1981 - Lucien Rizos

- 30 Jul - 18 Aug 2007
- Entry: Koha
- Location: PhotoSpace Gallery, 1st floor, 37 Courtenay Place
(above the Sahara Café)

Recent prints of images taken around New Zealand in 1979-1981.

What the roof dreamt - Denis O'Connor:

- 11 Aug - 4 Nov 2007
- Entry: usually koha
- Location: City Gallery, Civic Square

Denis O'Connor makes sculptures and photographic works which resound with echoes of past events and personal histories. His exhibition, *What the Roof Dreamt*, features work that was created in both Cork, Ireland, and New Zealand. The works explore his ancestral homeland while

referencing the Auckland peninsula, where he was brought up, and Waiheke Island, where he has lived for over three decades.

Nothing more than this - Jenny O'Connor (photographs) & Sean O'Connor (music)

- 24 Aug - 15 Sep 2007
- Entry: Koha
- Location: PhotoSpace Gallery, 1st floor, 37 Courtenay Place (above the Sahara Café)

WPS member Jenny's first solo photographic exhibition, themed around songs written by Jenny's son, Sean. The songs are a glimpse into the experiences of maturation, fatherhood, relationships, successes and failures, and finding a place in the world. The photographs are visual interpretations of those experiences. Jenny and Sean will be at the gallery every Sunday from 11am-3pm during the time of the exhibition. Sean will be performing the songs at 1pm each Sunday. They have also produced a book and CD — the full multimedia experience. Jenny would love to see WPS members at the exhibition opening on 24 August from 5pm - 7pm.

War in Paradise

- 25 Aug 2007 - 28 Jan 2008
- Location: Museum of Wellington City and Sea, Queens Wharf, Wellington Waterfront.

The story of the Third New Zealand Division in New Caledonia during World War 2 told through photographs and extracts from the unofficial histories. The exhibition explores how the soldiers related to the local people – Kanak, French, Indonesian and Vietnamese – and how they coped with living in “the Paris of the Pacific” while preparing to confront the Japanese. Alongside is a fresh look at New Caledonia and the New Zealand War Cemetery and Memorial in Bourail through recent photographs by Paul Thompson.



'Running' by Jenny O'Connor

WPS News and Information

Notice of Annual Meeting of members

Wellington Photographic Society (Inc) gives you notice that its Annual General Meeting (AGM) will be held at the Wellington Arts Centre, 61-69 Abel Smith Street, Wellington, commencing at 7:35pm on Tuesday, 11 September 2007. The business of the meeting will be:

- Receive from the committee, a report, balance sheet and statement of accounts for the preceding financial year.
- Elect the officers and committee.
- Set annual subscriptions.
- Decide if an audit of the financial accounts is needed. Appoint an auditor or empower the Committee to appoint the auditor.
- Decide on any motions submitted to the meeting.
- Consider general business.

Rules of the Society (abridged)

1. The Committee shall consist of the Officers and up to five elected members. The Officers of the Society are President, Vice-President, Hon Secretary, Hon Treasurer, Immediate past President and others as deemed necessary.
2. The President may hold office for no longer than two years. They may seek office after a lapse of two years.
3. All nominations for the Committee shall be in writing signed by a proposer, seconder and the nominee and be received by the Secretary no later than 2 weeks prior to the AGM.
3. Notices of motion to change the constitution must be in writing with the Secretary no less than one month prior to the AGM. Such notices must have a proposer and seconder.
4. The business of the AGM must be mailed to members by the Secretary no less than seven days prior to the meeting

Additional information

1. Notices not received by the secretary in sufficient time will be excluded from the business of the AGM
2. The committee currently consists of the standing Officers and a Programme Co-ordinator, Competition Secretary, Publicity & Promotions Officer, Newsletter and web site Editor(s).

Critical dates

11 August - last day for receipt of Notices of Motion to amend the Constitution

29 August - last day for receipt of nominations for the Officers and Committee

4 September - last day for the Secretary to notify members by mail, the business of the meeting

Peter Hunt

Hon. Secretary

Nomination form

A copy of the nomination form to use if you wish to nominate a member for the Committee of the Society is attached separately to the *Impact* e-mail. Note that the proposer, seconder and the nominee must each sign the form.

Adobe products

At the 28 May meeting, John Doogan spoke to us about Adobe products, including PhotoShop and Lightroom. Some WPS members enquired whether Adobe might be interested in providing a discount for bulk purchases by WPS. John advises that Adobe only offers discounted prices to educational institutions. For other buyers, Adobe offers a range of products with more or fewer features at different prices to suit different requirements and budgets.

Society Contacts

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PSNZ Northern Regional Convention

The Waikato Photographic Society has advised that they have now put information regarding the Northern Regional Convention on to their website. Anyone interested in attending the PSNZ Northern Regional Convention can check the website for further information:

www.waikatophotosoc.org.nz .

New members

WPS welcomes new members (and welcomes back an old member) – Hilary and Jennifer Troup, Yvette Hartley.

Membership Secretary position – VACANT

The role of membership secretary is vacant. Anyone interested in taking on this position can contact Fred Wotton or Alistair Owens for more information.

See the next page for a map of how to get to the venue for the Interclub Print Battle. See you there on the 14th.

