



NEWBIES DAY EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW

To participate in Whanganui Camera Club activities

(well a lot of things anyway)

Programme for this afternoon

- Introductions
 - *How are you finding the Club so far ?*
 - *What would you like to understand better about the WCC?*
- ***Untangling the WCC*** presentation
- Your thoughts on what you would like the club to do in 2024
- Will take a break for a cuppa
- ***Take more interesting photos*** presentation
- Any unanswered questions

General comment: only about photography

Introductions

- How are you finding the Club so far ?
- What would you like to understand better about the WCC?
- What are your burning questions?
- What are you most confused about?



UNTANGLING THE WCC

Everything you want to know but are afraid to ask

As at November 2023

Disclaimer: We don't know everything either!



Website, Facebook, Notices and eNewsletters

- We are a very communicative club
- Walk through website <https://www.whanganuicameraclub.org.nz/>
 - *It is continually updated and is the authoritative source of information*

Facebook

- Two Facebook closed groups – **for financial members only**
 - *WCC Photos*
 - *WCC Notices*
 - *Images are not considered published (although still a risk they get shared)*
 - *Best to reduce size of images (72 ppi; 2000px on longest length)*
 - *Watermark is a personal choice (I don't like them)*
- Also have a Public Facebook page

WHANGANUI CAMERA CLUB MEETINGS

Second and Fourth Wednesday
from February to November
7pm for 7.30 pm
2 Handley Street
Visitors Welcome



Whanganui Camera Club

394 likes • 465 followers

 Message

 Liked

 Search

WCC Photos

- Primarily to post and discuss **original** photos (preferably not selfies)
 - *Can put specs but don't have to*
- Can ask for feedback/critique if you wish (but be careful what you wish for)
- Can just share your enjoyment in photography
- Encourage you to like others' posts (they are vulnerable too!)
- Don't post similar images over and over and over and over ...
- Can share anything you feel others may appreciate but aim for photographically interesting images (**your images not anyone else's!**)
- Best to limit a post to up to 5 images for greater impact (one is even better!)

- Usual rules re not dissing others, civility and staying on topic (which is photography)

WCC Notices

- For notices/technical discussions/ information/ links to useful stuff/shared images from non-members etc etc
- Important to follow as it is where up to date info is posted on events
 - *Eg photoshoots/workshops/fieldtrips etc*
- Same rules as WCC Photos

eMail

- Not all members are on Facebook
- Emails are sent to all members from the Secretary
 - *This is our Official communication channel from club to members*
 - *Meeting Notices – before each “main” meeting*
 - *eNewsletters – beginning of the month*
 - *Other comms as they arise*

Key Documents

- Constitution
 - *Who/what we are and can do etc*
- Handbook
 - *A richer description of the club and how we operate*
- Photography Assessment and Trophy Competitions Guidelines
 - *Critical information for those entering our photography assignments*
 - *Currently being drafted for 2024 – hard copy given to members after they pay subs*
 - *Can have a 2023 copy FYI*
- All can be found on our web site
 - *eventually*

Club Meetings - 4 per month

- 1st Thursday – Photo Appreciation
 - *Will describe later*
- 2nd and 4th Wednesdays – Main Club nights
 - *Typically involve assessment results and a presentation or suitable activity*
- 3rd Wednesday – Committee Meetings
 - *Members may attend (unless it is taken in committee) – but they are boring*

Photography Assessments (and Trophy Competitions)

- We have 18 formal “photography assignments/assessments” each year
 - *Most have “Set” subjects – these push you to try new things and develop as a photographer*
 - *Don’t enter until you are ready*
 - *Create the images you want to make and select those that “fit” the set subject*
 - *Most don’t (can enter them in “Open”)*
 - *Images are assessed on their merits and are not in competition against each other (apart from Trophy winners)*
- A grade and B grade
 - *Take time in B grade to learn from feedback and observing others*
 - *In A grade it is assumed you have made deliberate artistic choices*
 - *Assessors are independent and don’t know who the authors are (except club panels may guess)*
- Everything you need to know should be in the Assessment Guidelines
 - *But will go through a few things that are sometimes confusing*

Matted Prints

■ Printing

- *Number of options around town (on later slide)*
- *Single images typically printed on 12x16 inch sheet – images themselves should be within this to allow room for matting*
 - *Best to size the canvas at 12x16in (equiv to 30.5 x 41 cm) at 300 dpi in Photoshop (or equivalent) and put image on it with a border to suit (I typically have my images at 24 X 37cm or thereabouts. Leaves room for reasonable matt borders)*
- *Can print 8 or 9 images on a single A0 sheet at H&A*
- *Renata's Art and Framing and Terry at River City Framing will matt in a plain white at 16x20 inch for around \$12 - 20 (including a foam board backing)*
 - *Can reuse matts but must ensure they are stuck down – not loosely hinged!*
 - *Put label on back as per Guidelines (right way up)*
 - *Do **not** put name on image*
 - *Remove old numbers*

How to print a single image on an A3 or 16x20 sheet

(avoid printing to the edges and editing in store)

Harvey Norman and Warehouse Stationary OK quality for club assessments but not great for selling

I hear that Paua Products are good, and there is also Photo & Print and H&A



Tip – make sure both the canvas and the image you place on it are at 300dpi

Print prices around town

For A3 or equivalent

- Harvey Norman - \$16 full price – get a voucher for next one at half price (\$8)
- Warehouse Stationery - \$15 full price (not sure if they offer specials anymore)
 - *Note HN/TWH use lower weight papers and can tend to crinkle. Also can be variable quality from the self help kiosk*

The following are all using higher weight, lustre or satin, better quality photopaper:

- Pua – say they can do an A3 silk matt print at 256gsm for \$5.35 (worth a try)
- Photo and Print - \$30 full price but for WCC members \$24
- H&A - \$20
- John, Bill and Melanie will print one a month for WCC assignments at \$15
- NOTE: You can print at a smaller size for less – these are just to compare like with like

How to print nine images on an A0 sheet

WCC price \$100 at H&A (~ \$11 each)

Better quality than at HN and WS

You just need to plan ahead



Matted Print - Labels

■ On back of the Matted Print

Grade: B

Assessment: Champion

Title: *Best image ever*

■ On the container

Name: John Smith

Grade: B

Assessment: Champion

Titles:

1. *Best image ever*
2. *Next best*

Bring along on the Club night that the entries close and put on entries table

PLUS ENTER VIA JOT FORM ON CLUB WEBSITE

Digital Images

- Digital Images (or DPLs)
 - Take care to size and label correctly (p10 in guidelines)
- Once image ready to submit
 - Open in Photoshop (or equiv) and go to image size and select pixels
 - If width is greater than 3840 then enter 3840 (otherwise leave width)
 - If height is greater than 2160 then enter 2160 (otherwise leave height)
 - The dpi value doesn't matter as long as it is 72 or higher (100 or 300 is OK)
 - This is to ensure it displays on our 4K tv screen (16x9 ratio - if you have an image much less than these specs it will show smaller on the screen or be stretched– not desirable)
 - Save image as a jpeg and check its size (should be less than 10MB to avoid cluttering our g-drive)
- Label exactly as in guidelines (first 4 characters at least!!!!!!)
 - BS Best image ever.jpg (**BS B** are the first 4 characters!)
 - Not **BSB** nor **BS_B** or **BS-B** or **BS B** or **B.S. B**
- Submit online via JotForm

Feedback

- Results night!

- *Can be scary (is scary!)*
- *It's your baby that's being judged/assessed*
- *The assessor may not like it (in fact that is often the case)*
- *Everybody gets to see and hear the judgement/assessment*
- *There is nowhere to hide*
- *Your heart is going thump thump...*

- It's not social media (no superficial likes)

- You get used to it

- *We've all been there (but it's still scary and your heart still thumps)*
- *Be supportive of members through their highs and lows*
- *Focus on learning from the experience*
 - What the assessor says about your image (it's only an opinion so take it as that)
 - Observe everyone else's images and the assessor's comments
 - Assessments aren't everything but are great learning experiences

Recipe for disappointment

- Waiting until Monday or Tuesday (or Wednesday) before entries are due to start looking to see if you have an image to stick in that might fit the set subject

Club Activities

- What we do together outside of club nights – focus on photography, enjoyment, learning and development
- Fieldtrips / Photoshoots/ Workshops
- Great way to get to know fellow members and take interesting photos

Club Activities - Fieldtrips

- Out of town to a destination or two with a variety of photo opportunities/ usually full day and sometimes overnight.
- Take the minivan (10 to 12) or private cars – Ray usually drives the van
- Planned in advance – because it often involves bookings or arrangements and money
- Usually aim for 2+/- per year
- This year we went to
 - *Taranaki lakes and beaches*
 - *Wairarapa / Cape Palliser*
- Next year we are developing ideas re Waitomo/Wellington/Kimbolton/Raetihi
- Will let you know early in 2024

- Get to know fellow members, see interesting locations and take photos – what more could you want?

Club Activities - Photoshoots

- Local photo opportunities (or nearby)
- Usually half day (ish)
- Often ends up at a café
- Sometimes will focus on a photography challenge/assignment
- Will be advertised in advance – just turn up (don't need to register)
- Some we did this year
 - *Westmere Lake / Jono's wetland / Paloma Gardens / Downtown Whanganui*
- Working on next years plan
- Pop up Photoshoots – any member can suggest an impromptu Photoshoot at short notice (just put it on Facebook WCC Notices and invite members to join you)
 - *Nature group also arranges local photoshoots from time to time*

Club Activities - Workshops

- Usually focus on some technical aspect of photography
- All about learning and development
- We did several this year
 - *Creative flower portraits – with Annette Johnson*
 - *Assessing photos*
 - *Portrait lighting*
 - *Printing and Matting*
 - *Post-processing 201*
- We are looking at several ideas for 2024
 - *Helen McLeod in March – **Into the light***
 - *Making videos and audiovisual slideshows*
 - ***Basic photo handling for beginners** – *is this of interest?**
 - *Another studio portrait workshop*

Club Activities – Other stuff

- Anything can happen
- Past examples
 - *Light up Bikes Spectacular*
 - *Whanganui Vintage Weekend*
 - *Heritage Month*
 - *Collegiate events*

These involved a formal arrangement for the WCC members to take photos of a public event as a fundraiser

- We have just been asked to photograph the 3 Bridges Marathon on 10 Dec
 - *Anyone interested in helping?*

Photo Appreciation Evenings

- First Thursday every month 7pm in the Clubrooms
- Opportunity to bring along images to share and get informal feedback from fellow members (no pounding heart)
- Focus on recent images from recent activities or possible entries in upcoming assessments – but not limited to that
- **Non competitive / supportive environment – great for newer members**
- Try to include a learning element
- Sometimes ends with wine and cheese

Club Exhibition - October

- Public exhibition of members framed prints in Arts Centre
- Runs from Friday to Saturday over two weekends (8 days)
- Entry fee per exhibit and can offer for sale to public
- Club loans frames or use your own
- Front and back galleries
 - *Front gallery usually classic*
 - *Back gallery usually something different*

National Photography Salons

(fancy term for competitions)

- Members may enter images (prints and or digital) in a number of national “Salons”
 - Will have an entry fee
 - Judging is tough (no novice or B grade and no helpful feedback)
 - Include:
 - *National Exhibition (NatEx)*
 - *North Shore Salon of Photography*
 - *Laurie Thomas NZ Landscapes*
 - *Creative Focus (Pukekoe CC)*
 - *Nelson Triptych*
 - *Greymouth / Mawhera*
 - *Tauranga AV*
 - *National Photojournalism Competition (New Brighton)*
 - *Whanganui Salon (next one in 2025)*
- Club members can enter
- Test yourself against the national standards
- Anonymous – no one needs to know

How to help us

- We have a very hard working committee and we aim to deliver what members want
 - *Any feedback is very welcome*
 - *Offers to help even more so*
 - Eg Supper Duty
- Join in the various activities
- Post on Facebook
 - *Appreciate others images (ie Like them)*
 - It makes them feel good

Any questions?

- Club ethos is “Enjoyment in Photography”
- I like to think we also assist all members learn stuff and develop their craft and art
- I believe the key to a strong club is in appreciating your fellow members' photography

Your thoughts on what you would like the club to do in 2024?

- What would make you more likely to stay a member in 2024?