

Editor's Ramblings

Well, our first meeting of 2009 is almost upon us. Please remember to bring to the meeting a couple of your recent photos to show us what you and your camera have been up to over the summer break. If they are in digital format please come earlier so we can have them loaded on the laptop NO LATER THAN 7:30pm - please use a USB flash drive if you have one otherwise a CD would be OK. Also, if you would like to ask any technical questions regarding your camera and associated equipment then please feel free to bring along the item(s) - AND any applicable instruction manuals - and we'll see if we can be of help.

When our committee planned the club programme for 2009 we decided to allow 15 minutes at the start of each meeting for a question and answer session. Hopefully this will prove valuable in assisting members with their photography. So if you have any questions at all, don't be shy, just ask!

A reminder that our first set subject competition for the year is FLOWERS, plus of course there are the usual OPEN and NATURAL HISTORY competitions, and this month all entries are to be **digital only** - NO PRINTS.

On the subject of our competitions, when I emailed out the entry form you will have noticed in the email the following wording:

Copyright of all images remains with the photographer, however the Greymouth Photography Club reserves the right to use copies of images entered in these competitions for club publicity/promotional purposes, which may include posting a low res version on our website, and for club entry in interclub competitions. If you do not wish the club to use your images in this manner, please let the Competition Secretary know at the time of entry or note on your entry form 'Not for Publicity Use'.

This is to save us having to ask you every time we would like to use your photo to promote our club or enter in an interclub competition. If you **do not** want us to use any or all of your images we will respect your wishes but please be sure to let the Competition Secretary know at the time of entry, otherwise permission to reproduce images for the above purposes will be assumed.

For those of you planning to enter images in the **2009 PSNZ National Exhibition of Photography**, you are reminded that **entries close** in just under two weeks time - **February 25th**. Entry forms can be downloaded from the PSNZ website at www.photography.org.nz or from the competitions page of our own website at www.greymouthphotoclub.org.nz.

Congratulations

CONGRATULATIONS must go to Russell Adams who has had two of his images awarded ACCEPTANCES in the Great Lakes Digital Salon in the United States. Russell entered them in the Nautical section and gaining two Acceptances from only four entries in his first attempt at an International Salon is a fantastic result!

2009 Subscriptions

As mentioned in last month's newsletter, it is that time of the year when club subs fall due once again. Our subs have remained the same as last year - \$45 for individuals, \$80 for families, and \$20 for students, unwaged or senior citizens. This year we are offering you the direct credit option for making your payment - for details please refer to the subscription notice we sent out last month.

Thank you to those of you who have been prompt with your payment, this has been most appreciated - especially after our recent big spend in purchasing the club's very own data projector! To those of you with subs still owing, we would greatly appreciate your payment in the near future.

President:	Murry Cave LPSNZ	ph 762 7112
Secretary / Treasurer:	John Reid	ph 768 4194
Competition Secretary:	Elizabeth Passuello FPSNZ LNPSNZ AFIAP	ph 768 0069
Newsletter Editor:	Elizabeth Passuello FPSNZ LNPSNZ AFIAP	ph 768 0069

Resizing your Images

For anyone still discovering the secret of resizing images for entry in our competitions:

From the **Image** menu select **Image Size**.

The screenshot on the right is the Image Size dialogue box immediately after opening. It is divided into two main sections - Pixel Dimensions and Document Size.

The Pixel Dimensions section tells us two things about our image - the file size, in this case 43.1 Megabytes, and the actual width and height of our image in pixels.

The Document Size section tells us how big the image is in printed form, in the example shown here our image will be 33.53cm wide by 50.29cm high at 240 pixels/inch.

Our competition entries are to be a maximum of 1024 pixels wide by 768 pixels high. To resize your image to this you will be resampling therefore please ensure the Resample Image box is checked (if it is unchecked the option of changing the pixel dimensions will no longer be available). The Constrain Proportions box should also be checked so that when you change one dimension the other will change automatically to maintain the existing ratio between the width and height of your image.

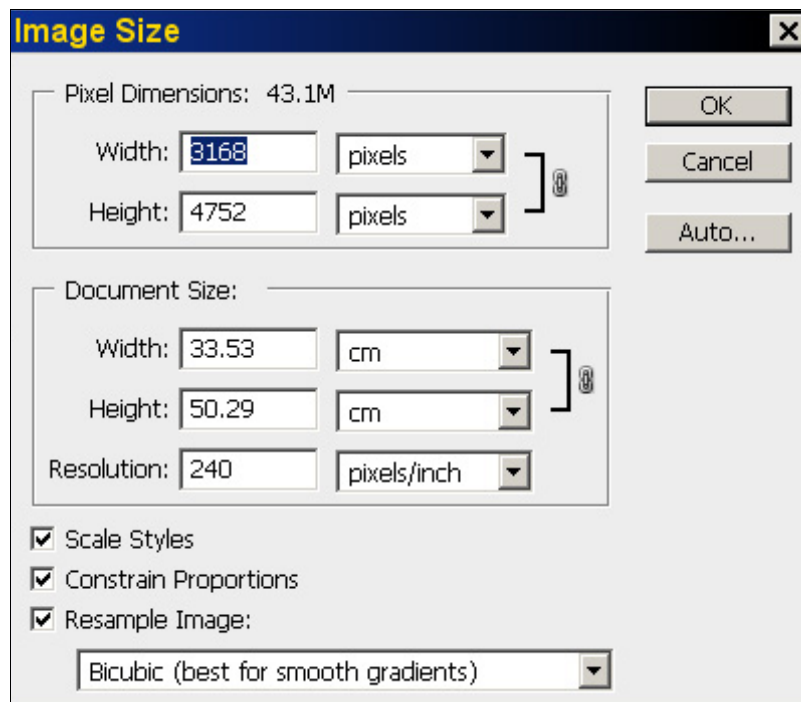
If your image is wider than it is high, change the number for the Width to 1024 (the height will change automatically and should be no more than 768 pixels).

If your image is higher than it is wide, change the number for the Height to 768 (the width will change automatically and should be no more than 1024 pixels).

Ignore the resolution (pixels/inch) - however if you do want to change it to screen resolution (most commonly 72 pixels/inch) then you would uncheck the Resample Image box, change the resolution, recheck the Resample Image box then change the pixel dimensions.

Finally, sharpen your image (Filter > Sharpen) AFTER resizing as downsizing will generally soften the appearance of the image to some degree.

There you go, simple as that. I have based these instructions on working in Adobe Photoshop, however to resize your image using other image editing software will be much the same.



Aquatic Adventure on the Tasman

Many thanks to Russell Adams for organising the recent boat trip north along the coast. While bar conditions foiled the first attempt at this adventure, the second one was a success with the boat following the coastline as far north as Motukiekie Rocks. Views of the coastline, including the well-known hole-in-the-rock at the entrance to 10 Mile Creek, as well as Hector's Dolphins and Spotted Shags were among the subjects caught on camera.

These images from Joy Baker show the hole-in-the-rock at 10 Mile and a line of Spotted Shags watching them cruise by.

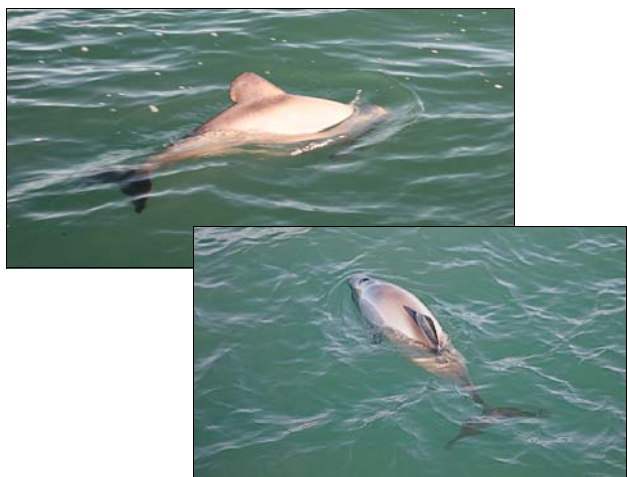


The Aquatic Adventure Continues...

More images from the boat trip courtesy of Joy Baker...



Russell Adams takes a high vantage point from which to spot the dolphins.



Hectors Dolphins swim close by.



Ashley Morley (centre) and Russell Adams (far right) are among the group enjoying the sights just north of Point Elizabeth.

Aggregate Points Competition

2008 Results

Wondering where you were placed in the Aggregate Points competition last year? Here are the results for each grade.

A-GRADE

Placing	Points	Member ID	
First	105	116	Elizabeth Passuello FPSNZ LNPSNZ AFIAP
Second	78	117	John Reid
Third	73	119	Murry Cave LPSNZ
4 th	56	131	
5 th	55	108	
6 th	52	119	
7 th	45	109	
8 th	33	135	
9 th	10	102	
10 th	9	106	
11 th	3	122	
12 th	1	132	

B-GRADE

Placing	Points	Member ID	
First	85	124	Sandra Rhodda
Second	71	107	Sharleen Davidson
Third	62	123	Linda Ingram
4 th	56	118	
5 th	55	126	
6 th	38	101	
7 th	8	144	
8 th	6	115	

C-GRADE

Placing	Points	Member ID	
First	61	141	Neroli Nolan
Second	41	140	Michael Buckley
Third	22	136	Nicki Mora
4 th	10	149	
5 th =	9	125	
5 th =	9	145	
7 th =	6	113	
7 th =	6	120	
9 th	5	114	
10 th	1	133	

JUNIOR GRADE

Placing	Points	Member ID	
First	13	110	Emily Lorimer
Second	7	146	Joshua Lorimer

March Set Subject Competition

WINDOWS

Art in the Park

7 March 2009

A reminder that our club will be at Art in the Park and we very much need your support in the following ways...

- providing images for display or sale - framed or matted prints (ready to hang, no size restriction)
- giving an hour or two of your time on the day to help man our exhibit

Your images can be for sale so do take the opportunity to make some extra dollars for that next memory card! Please note that there is a 15% commission on all artworks sold, payable to Art in the Park, so please take this into account when calculating your sale price.

John is co-ordinating matters concerning our exhibit at the event so if you can assist on the day, have images to display / sell or would like more information please contact him at reidjs@xtra.co.nz or phone him on 768 4194.

Images are to be delivered to John at 131 Waterwalk Road, Greymouth, **NO LATER THAN 4 March 2009**. Please phone him before delivering your work to ensure he his home.

Return to Metro Cave

26 April 2009

John has kindly organized a repeat guided tour of the Metro Cave at Charleston. The trip is by permit only and will be limited to seven people plus John and the two guides. The first seven people to book will be the only people able to go - so be in quick!

Only the tourist section of the cave will be visited and you can be rest assured that this area is not difficult to walk through in any way.

You will need to have some good strong footwear suitable for walking, warm clothes, a hard hat and head light. If you don't have the hat and light contact John as some spare hats may be able to be arranged for you. You will also need to bring lunch, something to drink, and wet weather gear for outside the cave. It does not rain inside the cave and the temperature will be quite comfortable, so do not let the thought of wet weather deter you from making this trip! Some light gloves can be useful for keeping your hands clean for when it comes time to use your camera.

Naturally you will also need a flash or flashes that are compatible with your camera as this will be your only light source for photography inside the cave (apart from your head light) - we will be running a tutorial on flash photography prior to this trip at our March meeting.

It may be possible to use the Nile River Rainforest Train run by Norwest Adventures to make the trip into the cave track, if so there will be a small cost for this.

Please contact John ASAP if you want to go on this trip - as I write this paragraph **ONLY FIVE places remain available!**

What is Natural History?

Of all our competition subjects the one most people ask 'What is...?' would have to be Natural History.

While 'Nature' as a subject usually has slightly more scope, Natural History has very strict guidelines. The definition wording is much the same in most competitions...

Untamed animals and uncultivated plants in their natural habitat, geology and phenomena not produced by man. The accurate record of the subject and the natural environment is the prime factor. Evidence of man and his manipulation of the natural environment is undesirable and should be avoided. As well as satisfying these requirements, every effort should be made to use the highest level of artistic skill in all Natural History photographs. All works **MUST** be titled, using scientific and/or common names only. Digitally manipulated images are **NOT** eligible for entry.

Therefore, don't photograph the flowers in your garden or your pet cat, dog or turtle, and put them in Natural History. The subject should be pure nature without any evidence of mankind's involvement. The only exception is usually banding on birds.

A Pirate Walked into a Bar...

A pirate walked into a bar and the bartender said, "Hey, I haven't seen you in a while. What happened? You look terrible."

"What do you mean?" said the pirate. "I feel fine."

"What about the wooden leg?" the bartender asks. "You didn't have that before."

"Well, we were in a battle and I got hit with a cannon ball, but I'm fine now." says the pirate.

"Well, OK, but what about that hook? What happened to your hand?" asked the bartender.

"We were in another battle." replied the pirate. "I boarded a ship and got into a sword fight. My hand was cut off. I got fitted with a hook. I'm fine, really."

So the bartender asks, "What about that eye patch?"

The pirate replies, "Oh, one day we were at sea and a flock of seagulls flew over. I looked up and one of them pooped in my eye."

"Your'e kidding," said the bartender, "you couldn't lose an eye just from bird poop."

The pirate responds, "It was my first day with the hook."

Closing Dates

14 February	Greater Lynn International Color Exhibition	www.greaterylynphoto.org/International.html
25 February	PSNZ National Exhibition of Photography	www.photography.org.nz
28 February	PSNZ Honours Applications	www.photography.org.nz
28 February	PSNZ / Canon Online Competition	www.photography.org.nz
22 March	Wisconsin Circuit - 4 International Exhibitions	www.wisconet.com
11 April	Bristol International Salon of Photography	www.bristolphoto.org.uk
18 May	Golden Spurs International Salon	www.wvfd.be/exhibitions.htm

2009 Club Competitions

Closing Date: 3rd Tuesday of the Month

FEBRUARY	D	Open • Natural History • Flowers
MARCH		Open • Natural History • Windows
APRIL		Open • Natural History • Action
MAY	D	Open • Natural History • Reflections
JUNE		Open • Natural History • Kiwiana
JULY		Open • Natural History • Silhouettes
AUGUST	D	Open • Natural History • Humour
SEPTEMBER		Open • Natural History • Abstract
OCTOBER		Open • Natural History • Weather

D = Digital Entries Only

Digital entries may be supplied on CD, USB Flash Drive
or emailed to elizabeth@passuello.co.nz

February Meeting

7:30 pm Tuesday 17th

RSA Bowling Club Rooms, 181 Tainui Street, Greymouth

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Election of Officers, General Business
Come along and have your say!

SHARE A PHOTO (or two)

Please bring along a couple of your recent photos to show us.
We'd love to see your work and hear what you've been
up to with your photography.

FEBRUARY COMPETITION

- Closing Date for Entries -

Flowers • Open • Natural History
DIGITAL ENTRIES ONLY