



NATURE PHOTOGRAPHY SOCIETY OF NEW ZEALAND INC.

**FEBRUARY
2009**

PETE'S PATTERN

Patron
Dr Peter Harper FPSNZ
329 4011

President
Pete Tyree
347 9050
tyree.lamb@xtra.co.nz

Vice President
Priscilla Warren
349 9874

Secretary
Trish Brown
322 7081

Treasurer
Ken Muscroft-Taylor
03 318 8221

Newsletter
Duncan Lindsay
980 3501

Web Site
Michele Howard
325 7374

Equipment
Brian Milner
3392647

Speaker Coordinator
Owen Ragg
348 1412

Kim Annan
021 344 569
Pam Cumming
348 4577

Stephen Wright
338 0347

Mailing Address
PO Box 8479,
Christchurch 8440
www.naturephotography.org.nz

OBJECTS of the Society

To promote the advancement of nature photography in New Zealand. Nature photography to us means all aspects of the natural environment, including landscapes, flora and fauna, and close-up photography.

To promote friendship, cooperation and the exchange of information and ideas about nature photography among the members of the Society both within New Zealand and overseas.

Code of ETHICS

Nature photographers pursue their interest because they appreciate the value of the natural world. They hope that through their actions they will encourage all who participate in the enjoyment of nature, to do so in a way that best promotes good stewardship of the natural resource.

From the President:

It always astounds me what a diverse range of experiences and skills are hidden away amongst our membership. Another example of this came into the spotlight at our last meeting when Meg Errington shared her "Life before NZ" with us. Her presentation centred around her fifteen years working for the Canadian Red Cross in Somalia, Tanzania and Malawi. Not only did she capture some excellent photos whilst in Africa, but she also bagged an excellent husband!!

Meg's talk was followed by a display of members' images and there were some very nice examples of nature photography there.

At our February meeting our speaker will be Shelley Ball whose presentation of a "Tale of Two Tundras" will be another great experience for nature photographers.

Honours sets should be in for judging by now but if you are a bit late I think Stephen Wright will accept late entries up until Friday 13 February if you ask him nicely - have a go!!

The field trip to Oamaru (January 23 - 25) was a great success. Thank you Michele for all your work organising this weekend. Everything from penguins to limestone quarries, from Shag Point to Dunroon was explored by our team of photographers.

Our March meeting is our Club's AGM. Please come along to our February meeting armed with your suggestions for suitable people to be committee members and/or new President. This will make the election process quick and easy on the night.

We are still experiencing a long hot summer with our hottest month just starting! No excuses for not getting out and shooting something (with your camera of course!!).

Have fun out there and we'll get together at the February meeting.

IMPORTANT DATES

MONTHLY MEETING
Monday 16 February
**COMMITTEE
MEETING**
Monday 2 March
**FIELD TRIPS
CHEVIOT**
20-22 February
TOTARA STUMPS
22 March



SUPPER HELPERS

**Judy Ashton
Mary-Louise
Twhigg**

Thank you to Pam Cumming for her report and photos following the Oamaru field trip.

If you are on a future trip, why not volunteer as the Trip Reporter. It should not always fall to a Committee member.

See the note on page 2 requesting Committee volunteers and a new Newsletter Editor.

Duncan.

February Meeting

**Monday February 16th at 7.30 pm
HANCOCK HALL**

Tankerville Road, Hoon Hay

"A TALE OF TWO TUNDRAS"

Club Member, Shelley Ball, has worked as a biologist on the alpine tundra of the Colorado Rocky Mountains and on the tundra of the Canadian sub-Arctic.

This will be an opportunity to learn about those environments and Shelley's work and to view some of her images of what will be, for most of us, an "unvisited area".

SOME CLUB NOTICES

(1) SUBSCRIPTIONS

A reminder that NPS subscriptions are now due and payable. About 50% of members have already paid and we thank those members for their prompt payments.

(2) ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

With the AGM being held in March we again appeal to members to consider giving some of their time to working on the Committee. Four Committee members are not continuing after the AGM. Discuss with any Committee member what the work involves.

(3) NEWSLETTER EDITOR

There will need to be a new person on the Committee willing and able to prepare the monthly NPS Newsletter. Obviously, computer skills are needed. The current layout is done using a Microsoft Publisher program.

Generally the material is generated at the monthly Committee meeting and some is provided by members who have been on field trips.

Most Newsletters are sent to members by e-mail but about thirty have to be commercially printed and posted by snail mail.

Contact Duncan (9803501) for further information.

Guest Speaker updates/changes

1. March will be our Annual General Meeting. Honours Sets will be shown following the business part of the meeting.
2. April. John Cosgrove, a travel photographer from Dunedin.
3. May. Being finalised.
3. June - Kevin Bowie.
4. July - Trena Packer.

FIELD TRIPS

DAY TRIPS:

March 22nd: Totara Stumps - accessed from the saddle on the Little River-Port Levy Road. Meet Little River Cafe at 9am.

WEEKEND TRIPS:

February 20 - 22: **CHEVIOT.** Cabins \$45 - \$55

So far, only two people have shown interest in this trip.

Please contact Michele BEFORE the February meeting to confirm and discuss arrangements.

March 21 - 24: **CENTRAL OTAGO**

The trip, advertised in error, IS NOT BEING HELD.

April 10 - 13: Karamea

May 17 - 18: The Boyle - Fungi

June 26 - 28: Cass

July: Akaroa - Digital Weekend

August: Kaikoura

October 28 - 31: Totaranui

OAMARU FIELD TRIP REPORT

Wow!!, What a destination. I had not realised how much Oamaru has to offer photographers. We had almost everything on our doorstep.

A group of 17 arrived at different times to spend the weekend at the Empire Backpackers in Oamaru. My group arrived Friday mid-afternoon. We decided to get straight into photographing and went to visit the shag colony.

They were not intimidated by us at all. There were a lot of juveniles sitting on the rocks in the sun. Our next port of call was to the Moeraki Lighthouse where we located the yellow-eyed penguins. We enjoyed the antics of two young ones who still had some of their fluffy down and were harassing the adult penguins for food. How lucky we were to be able to sit and watch these birds.



There was time for a paddle in the sea at the Moeraki Boulders and time for some photos. Although by this time the light was a bit flat we still took many photos. We visited Moeraki Boulders again the following day when there was better light.

It was getting late on the way back to Oamaru when we passed a beautiful field of blue. We decided to return in the morning to photograph it. Just shows you should never let an opportunity go by. The next morning, with the sun coming up, the fields had coloured to a muddy lavender colour and looked nothing like the evening before! It was still good fun photographing it. At 5 am, when one group was in their cars and on their way, we decided the sky was not going to come to anything. How wrong we were! The result? We missed the brilliant sky at 6 am. In our umming and aahing as to whether to go or not we woke a few others up!! The next morning we were not going to be caught out and were in position in time - then the sky did not perform for us!

Saturday and Sunday were exceptionally hot days. We were all exhausted what with all that we had fitted in as well as the heat. Although the weekend was a little early for the sunflowers to be all out there will still be some great images produced.



Shag Point was a favourite spot for lots of cameras and the tide was right for us - some great images of rocks, green seaweed, seagulls and chicks.

A gallery was located where you could have a coffee.

Many of us descended on it. James Russell, the owner, was so obliging with cold

water for us as well as allowing us to have our lunch there. There was a feeling of being in Santorini!

Saturday night we gathered at Portside where a lovely meal was consumed. There was also an opportunity to watch the little penguins marching out of the sea.

On the Sunday morning some of the group went to the Oamaru limestone quarry - another great opportunity for photos. I had hoped to photograph the buildings in the town. There was just not the time to do everything!

Oamaru we will return!!!

Thanks Michele for your organisation of the weekend.

Pam Cumming.

NPS ON-LINE FORUM

With lots of questions being asked, lots of requests for information and the time-consuming effort required for organising the Field Trips, the Committee has agreed to start an on-line Club Forum for information and queries.

This Forum - actually a group of forums - will be for NPS members only. In order to access the forums and be able to contribute to them, you MUST REGISTER by going to the NPS web-site: <http://www.naturephotography.org.nz/>

Basic instructions for registering and posting to the Forum can be found in the 'Digital Corner' page - Accessing the New NPS Photography Forum.

Check it out now. You can e-mail the webmaster, Michele, if you have any questions. michele.a.howard@gmail.com Phone: 325 7374

