

focus

MATAMATA CAMERA CLUB
www.matamatacamerclub.org

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Hi all

Winter has now well and truly set in. With the very clear nights, and sometimes foggy ones, there have been wonderful opportunities get some great shots.



On a sadder note, I have learnt the importance of having a good quality protector lens on the front of my 24-70, 2.8L lens. While doing the shoot for Balloons over Waikato, this lens fell out of my bag and onto concrete. Picking it up and quickly checking it I couldn't see any obvious damage, and after using it, it was fine, but then at the theatre it was dropped off a chair and onto carpet, so I put it back and thought nothing more of it – until today when asked to take photos of some ladies for the paper, getting it out of the bag, it just rattled, part of the lens had obviously shattered. So not having an appropriate lens to do the job, I borrowed Elaine's camera. Once back at work on further inspection there was glass everywhere behind the lens cap. Thankfully it was only the UV filter that had bro-

ken, and hopefully on getting the lens checked, that will be all the damage done.

The moral of the story, ALWAYS purchase a good quality UV filter for the front of your lens. They range up to about a \$150+ dollars for a reasonably one, good insurance.



On a lighter note, hope you are all enjoying winter which brings different photo opportunities, and those of you that are away, I hope you are having fun.

So, until next time I'll see you round, like my broken lens should be.

Keith

*"A portrait is not made in the camera
 but on either side of it."*

– Edward Steichen

MEETINGS:

Second Tuesday of the month
 (February to November)
 7.30pm
 Anglican Church Hall

SUBSCRIPTIONS:

Double or Family	\$50.00
Single	\$35.00
School Age	\$20.00

JUNE THEME:

CONSUMPTION

A documentary-type image illustrating Consumption.

View this link for ideas for this month's theme.

<http://www.prixpictet.com/consumption/>

President:	Keith Melville
Secretary:	Elaine Melville
Treasurer:	Brie Martin
Website:	Carl Proffit
Newsletter:	Elaine Melville
Judge Convenor:	Geoff Brokenshire
Committee:	Helena Gratkowski Cassandra Robinson

QUICK AND EASY TIPS

Use wide lens. Try to use wide lenses for landscape shots when you want to create an impact of size. You can use a wide range of lenses to shoot landscapes but the vistas are amazing if you shoot with the widest lens possible because they give you a bigger angle of view.

Sharpen Your Subjects. Keep your main subjects sharp. Sharp details in the image truly draw the viewers' eyes towards the subject. Use your tripod in low light conditions to make sharp pictures. Try to make use of the new sharpening effect in your software.

Keep it Clean. A background makes or breaks your shot so be sure to think carefully about the how you place your subject. Keep the background clean, simple and clutter free. Think about where the viewer should be focused.

You Can't Have Too Many Clouds. Use fluffy white clouds on a blue sky to produce dramatic skies. Is it overcast with too many clouds to see the sky? The sky is now a giant soft box. This is the time to shoot portraits or waterfalls and streams with a motion blur effect.

Behind Every Great Shot is the Sun. Stand with the sun at your back and the light of the sun falling on your subject. Unless you are making artistic pictures always try to keep the sun behind you.

Light Trails. Enhance your dawn and night urban shots with light trails. Use vehicles or any other moving lights to add interest, mood, and drama.

Top to Bottom. Look straight up. Look straight down. Now examine everything in between. There are great shots from every vantage point, including an unexpected angle. Sometimes we focus so much on the obvious shot that we miss something special just a heartbeat away.

And finally... it's a Camera not a Machine Gun. Unless you are taking action shots or a time lapse series, try to reduce the number of shots. Don't just fire away hoping for something good to appear during editing. Think, move, and adjust your framing before you click the shutter. You'll develop better instincts and save hours of time editing those hundreds of extra images.

Adapted from: <http://digital-photography-school.com>

SUPPER ROSTER:

11th FEBRUARY	Cushla	Elaine
11th MARCH	Elaine	
8th APRIL	Liz	Robbo
13th MAY	Tina	Tracey
10th JUNE	Geoff	Sue
8th JULY	Carl/Sonya	Elaine
12th AUGUST	Helena	Caron
9th SEPTEMBER	Cassandra	Brie
14th OCTOBER	Esther	Elaine
11th NOVEMBER	Marie	Cushla
9th DECEMBER	Christmas function	

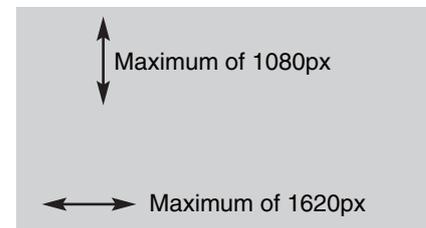
If you are unavailable on these dates email: elaine.c@ihug.co.nz

"The camera makes you forget you're there. It's not like you are hiding but you forget, you are just looking so much."

– Annie Leibovitz

FILE SIZES

Just a reminder of photo submission file sizes:



Your photo does not need to fit these proportions exactly, but should not go over the maximum in either direction, and should be 72dpi.

CLUB GEAR

The club has various gear that can be borrowed:

- Spyder (monitor calibrator)
- Arctic Butterfly (sensor cleaner)
- Matte Cutter – this is at Andy's home
- Free-standing display boards
- Various books (at Keith and Elaine's house as there are too many to cart to meetings each month, but anyone is welcome to have a look any time)

If you have any information or suggestions for your newsletter please email:
info@matamatacameraclub.org