



## Taupo Camera Club Newsletter.

Best image for the  
6-monthly Open  
was Peter Beazley  
with a print called  
Lathrus Oderatus



Congratulations  
**PETER**

### IMPORTANT Information:

The next meeting of the year is Tuesday 21st May at  
the Vintage Car Club Rooms at 7pm.

If you would like to submit images into club competitions,  
they must be submitted by 8pm on the Sunday after club night.  
The next competition entries are due on Sunday 26th May.

The Subjects are:

Subject 1 - Open

Subject 2 - The Power of Flowers

Please note the email address for submissions is:

[taupocameraimages@gmail.com](mailto:taupocameraimages@gmail.com)

Editor's Note: As part of our ongoing efforts to showcase the talent and diverse perspectives of our camera club community, we are continuing to feature member spotlights. Whether you're an experienced photographer or just starting out, you have a unique story to share. So let's get ready to celebrate our shared love for photography, and the wonderful individuals who make our camera club community so special. This month, we're proud to feature Gaylene Waldram, and Chris Smith. Get ready to hear about their passion, expertise, and memorable moments!

"Photography is the art of  
observation. It has little to do with  
the things you see and everything to  
do with the way you see them."

- ELLIOTT ERWITT

PICTURE PERFECT ADVENTURES AWAIT:  
Grab Your Camera  
and Explore!



## PHOTOGRAPHING THE POWER OF FLOWERS



**Macro Photography:** Dive into the captivating world of macro photography with a macro lens or extension tubes. Capture intricate details like the delicate veins of a petal or the texture of a stamen, experimenting with depths of field to create stunning, close-up compositions.



**Creative Angles:** Explore unconventional angles when photographing flowers to add depth and dimension to your photos. Get down low for a unique perspective, or shoot from above for an interesting bird's-eye view, offering a fresh take on familiar subjects.

**Natural Light:** Harness the power of natural light to elevate the beauty of your flower photos. Shooting during sunrise and sunset bathes your subjects in warm, soft lighting, enhancing their natural charm. Alternatively, playing with backlighting and diffused light can create dramatic effects and provide a smooth, even illumination, adding a touch of magic to your compositions.

**Creative Composition:** Break free from traditional composition rules, experiment with framing techniques and negative space. Play with symmetry, asymmetry, and patterns to create visually compelling images.

**Creative Processing:** Unleash your creativity in post-processing by experimenting with colour grading and selective sharpening. Convert photos to black and white or add artistic textures for unique effects.

**Storytelling:** Flowers are not just beautiful subjects; they can also be powerful storytelling elements. Incorporate them into your narratives, exploring themes like growth, decay, and renewal. Experiment with juxtaposing flowers with unexpected elements or creating still-life setups to evoke emotions and provoke thought in your viewers. By infusing your photos with a narrative, you can create images that are not just visually appealing but also deeply meaningful.



Check out these 24 tips for fantastic flower photography.  
[peterthenaturephotographer.com](http://peterthenaturephotographer.com)

Thank you to our Sponsors, Taupo Office Products who continue to supply the Chocolate Fish which are given out to our Honours Recipients.

Hi, I'm **Gaylene**. I have always had a passion for art and creativity. About 30 years ago, I took a night class in photography at school and enjoyed creating and developing images in the darkroom. Since then, I have continued to dabble in photography.



One of Gaylene's images.

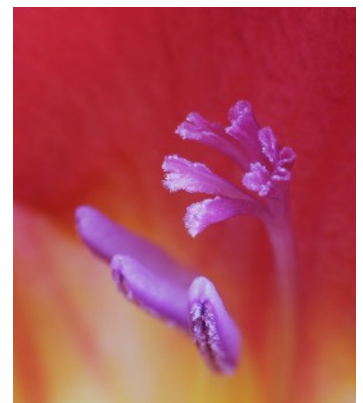
I joined the Taupo Camera Club five years ago with my daughter, who was studying photography in high school. It took me a year to gather the courage to submit any images for judging, but I always enjoyed listening to and learning from the judges' feedback.

Currently, I use a Fuji mirrorless camera and occasionally my Samsung phone. I have an older version of Photoshop Elements, but I only do minimal editing of my images, such as cropping and minor touch-ups of blemishes or boosting the contrast.

I do not have a favourite genre or style but enjoy macro and abstract images. I like the idea of creating a photo different from what is visible to the naked eye.

Over the years, my motivation and interest in photography have come and gone, but I always return to this art form. Club nights and monthly themes keep me interested in new techniques and ideas. I enjoy watching YouTube videos and spend hours scrolling through Pinterest for inspiration.

The key to photography is simply doing what you love. Judges may not always share our view of an image, but there's always something to learn.



Another image by Gaylene.

DON'T JUST SEE THE WORLD.  
*capture its beauty.*



**The next field trip is scheduled for Saturday, May 4th.** We plan to visit the Taupo Tree, Kuratau foreshore, and the Kuratau Lost Lagoon to photograph the landscapes and anything else that interests you. We will meet by the 2 Mile Bay Sailing Club at 9:30 a.m

**The Lost Lagoon of Kuratau** is located at the southern end of Lake Kuratau. It is set amidst a native forest that is home to a variety of birdlife, including the rarely-seen Kereru. We should get some interesting landscape shots there.

On our last field trip, 7 of our members ventured into Opepe Reserve just a short drive from Taupō on SH5, to explore native bush and photograph fungi. Birds were also plentiful. A good time was had by all.



Fungi photographed on our field trip.



Hello everyone, I'm **Chris Smith**. I have always had a passion for photography, starting with a compact camera in auto mode. My uncle, a photographer who worked for the government, restored old photos from the Alexander Turnbull Library Collection. He also hand-coloured some of the black-and-white images, which are now rare, and some are still displayed on my family's walls. In the past, I missed many opportunities, such as during the 15 years I spent flying in Papua New Guinea, and the 27 years I spent with Air NZ. However, I am determined to make the most of future opportunities. I joined the Camera Club a few years ago to improve my photography skills. I started with a Fujifilm X-T30 camera and later moved to the Fuji X-T5, which is more challenging to use than a B747. However, I have had more success with my old compact camera and Samsung S21 phone.



Jenya Smith, Chris' daughter drag racing.

I am drawn to landscape and street photography, although I'm hesitant to take pictures of strangers and stand out. I use Lightroom Classic, but I'm still learning. Staying motivated can be difficult, but joining the Camera Club has been a positive step. I need to carry my camera with me more often to avoid missing unexpected moments. I haven't found many good resources yet, but I have seen helpful tips on "Picture Connect," "Adobe Creative Cloud," and the Fuji X-T user group on Facebook. I know there are many more resources available that I have yet to discover.



Polar bear in Greenland.

In my early days, I learned not to discard auto-mode completely. Taking a few photos in auto-mode can result in something acceptable to take home, especially since you may never return. Sharing knowledge within the Camera Club can help me improve my skills and develop a sense of camaraderie. My biggest mistake is not slowing down, taking my time, and checking my images before moving on. I have some really bad photos that could have been avoided if I had followed these simple steps.

During the last meeting, Mike delivered a presentation on Hyperfocal Distance. He shared some YouTube videos with us, which you can find in the links below. Additionally, he also provided us with a link on neutral density filters. Using a 10x filter can significantly reduce the amount of light entering the lens and allow for very slow shutter speeds. This technique is particularly useful when trying to capture a smooth water effect. We will be able to apply this technique when we photograph the tree in the lake and waterfalls on our next field trip.

### Hyperfocal Distance - Simple explanation

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KESDSKza29I>

### Lens depth of field scales & hyperfocal distance (If you have the scale)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sw6nfJMtS6w>

### Photophills - Understanding Hyperfocal distance and how to calculate it

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lfX\\_Hw48jlo](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lfX_Hw48jlo)

### How to shoot Long Exposure Images - With ND Filters - Can get screw in ones too !

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zE10A65fVLw>

Congratulations on the submissions for the month of April.

Subject 1 - Open

6-Monthly Open Trophy - Colour

Subject 2 - Food & Drink

**Honours Images Below**



***Highly  
Commended***

