



## Taupo Camera Club Club Newsletter.

Lets introduce the  
new 2024 Taupo  
Camera Club  
Committee:

Some great new members  
have joined the  
committee, we look  
forward to bringing  
you a super year ahead.

President:

Graham Reichardt

Treasurer: Mike Timmer

Secretary: Jose Couchman

Competition Secretary:

Daniel Sullivan

Committee Extras:

Richard Passey

Alisdair Keucke

Ali Goodman

There once was a  
photographer keen,  
Whose camera could always  
be seen,  
With a click and a flash,  
He captured life in a dash,  
And made every moment a  
dream.

### IMPORTANT Information:

**All subscriptions should have been paid by the 1st of February.**

The next meeting of the year is Tuesday 16th April 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 21st April.

The Subjects are:

Subject 1 - Judge's Choice.

This topic will be Hands

Subject 2 - Still Life

Please note the email address for submissions is:

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

Editors Note: Starting with this newsletter edition, we will be featuring member spotlights to highlight the talent and diverse perspectives within our camera club community. As part of this initiative, I'll be having a chat with each member to delve deeper into their photography journey, experiences, and insights. Whether you're a seasoned photographer or just starting out, we believe that everyone has a unique story to tell. So, get ready to share your passion, expertise, and memorable moments with your fellow members. Let's celebrate our shared love for photography and the wonderful individuals that make our camera club community so special.

"The best thing about a picture, is that it never  
changes, even when the people in it do."  
- Andy Warhol



Meet Teagan Curtis, a Year 12 student at Tauhara College. In a candid conversation, Teagan shares insights into her artistic pursuits, inspirations, and experiences thus far.

Teagan, a budding photographer, is studying photography for the second year at school. Last year she participated in the Tauhara College Art Showcase, where she received a merit award. Teagan also received a merit award for a two-panelled, vintage-themed collection that showcased images of old cars, typewriters, and radios.



These photos were both used in my photography board which I got a merit on. It was one of the highest grades given.

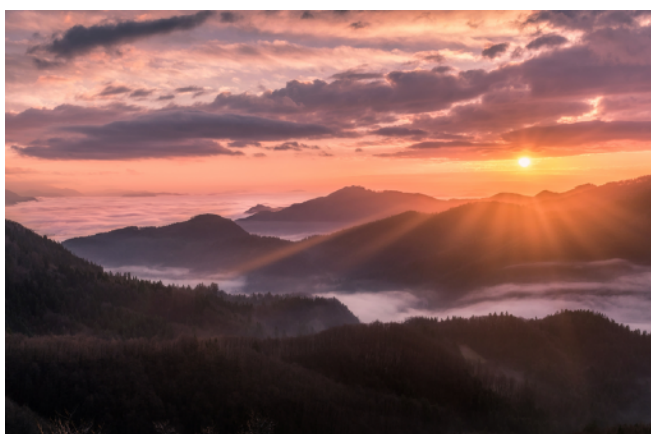
Teagan primarily uses Canon cameras provided by the school alongside her Sony camera at home (a gift from her uncle), and her smartphone for spontaneous captures while on the move. While she gravitates towards macro and landscape photography, Teagan has tried portraits and is also interested in street photography.

Her editing tool of choice is Adobe Photoshop, a skill she's refined through school and personal practice.

As she continues to evolve as a photographer, Teagan's dedication promises a future filled with captivating imagery and artistic growth.

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## THE ADVANTAGE OF EARLY MORNING STARTS.



The early morning presents landscape photographers with a multitude of advantages that can significantly enhance the quality of their images. One of the primary benefits is the ethereal quality of light during the golden hour, characterized by soft, warm tones that gently illuminate the landscape. This soft, directional light creates a sense of depth and dimension, casting long shadows and adding a captivating glow to the scenery.

Additionally, the morning atmosphere often has freshness, with less atmospheric haze compared to later in the day, resulting in crisp, vivid images with enhanced clarity and detail. Furthermore, the tranquility of the early morning allows photographers to capture serene, undisturbed landscapes, creating compositions imbued with a sense of stillness and tranquility that can evoke a profound emotional response in viewers. Check it out . [The secret to stunning landscape photography.](#)

### Judge's comments regarding the May competition subject - *Hands*.

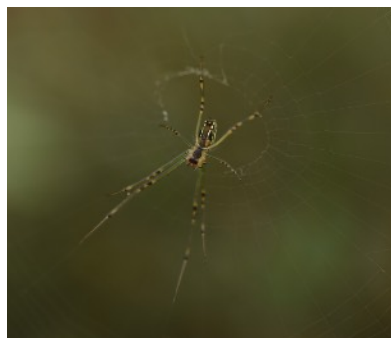
The object is to demonstrate one or more hands in use. e.g. Making something, wood turning, polishing, holding an object, shaking hands, wagging a finger, in prayer etc. etc. Within this subject matter, I would be looking to see if the photographer has made a good composition which tells the viewer something specific about the hand(s) in question. Lighting and exposure would also play a significant role in the construction of the image.



Meet Richard Passey; He started photography as a child, moved to film as an adult, and got serious about it in 2007 by joining the Whanganui Camera Club. He was a member there for five years before moving to Auckland, joining Henderson and then Waiuku.

Richard says, I'm in my second year with the Taupo Club, and currently use a Nikon Z5 mirrorless camera. I first started with a Ricoh film camera, then moved to an Olympus bridge camera, then switched to Nikon with a D90, and now the D750 full-frame.

I enjoy impressionism, abstract, and experimental photography featuring flowers, insects, macro and multiple exposures. I also like to photograph planes and powerboats. I lived near Ardmore in Auckland and attended airshows, which sparked my interest in warplanes. I use Lightroom but also like DXO and Silver Efex 6 for black-and-white editing.



I lost my mojo due to negative comments from a judge. To stay motivated, I attend photography conventions, follow photographers on social media, and use resources like Sean Tucker's 'The Meaning in the Making' and Digital Camera magazine. I also follow David duChemin and Rina Sjardin-Thompson and get inspired by visiting photography exhibitions and reading books on Van Gogh and other impressionist painters.

At a bird photography convention, I learned that shooting at a high ISO helps to achieve faster shutter speed and sharper images. De-noising programs can also be used to reduce noise. I usually shoot around ISO 400 and take bursts of shots for better focus. It's okay to break the rules sometimes, such as not always sticking to Rule of thirds.

### Three of Richard's Photos.

Above: Playing with Light, gained 1st place in the Franklin Art Awards, Open category

Below: Leucauge argyra, accepted into NZ Camera

Right: Harvard display at wings over Wairarapa





**Meet Francis Gates;** I am retired and moved to Nukuhau, Taupo, with my husband, Geoff, in September 2022.

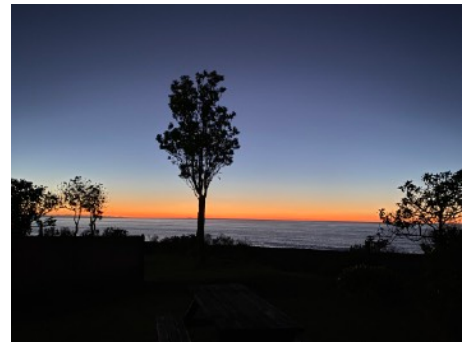
I have always been interested in photography, as my father was a photographer/developer for the DSIR. I spent many hours with him in his darkroom, developing photos the old-fashioned way. I was particularly interested in the macro photos produced from the electron microscope.

While I have taken many photos over the years, they are usually for my personal enjoyment. I have never used an editing program due to a lack of skill and understanding. I try to take good photos and limit myself to cropping.

I currently use a Canon 90D and my iPhone 15, which takes excellent photos. I find the iPhone very convenient and use it more than my camera for everyday shots (probably because I always carry it).

I am interested in most types of photography, mainly macro, sports, plants and animals. I am constantly looking for interesting shooting opportunities and can turn a 30-minute walk into an hour if I find one (fungi being a great example; once you see one, you will see many more).

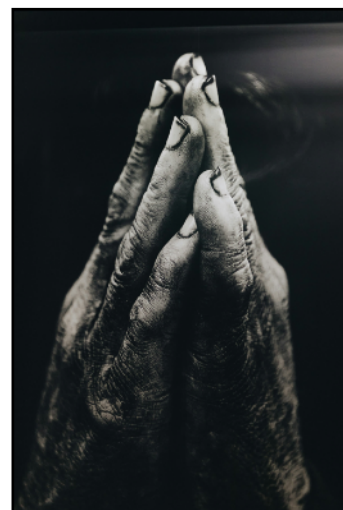
I attended a couple of weekend photo courses as part of a group years ago and found these most helpful and inspiring. I would attend again if there were anything held locally.



Three of Francis' images.

Check out this website for awesome photographs of hands.

[A SHOW OF HANDS: Tim Booth Photography](#). Limited Edition Fine Art Prints from the collection A Show Of Hands. A project spanning twenty years during which Tim Booth photographed hands from all walks of life and myriad professions.



***Congratulations on the submissions for the month of March. The subjects were Framing within a frame and Photo Journalism - Taupo.***

***Honours images below:***



**In the camera club's vibrant sphere,  
Honours photos bring hearty cheer.  
With clicks and with flashes,  
Their creativity dashes,  
In frames that make visions appear!**





## *Highly Commended Images*

