

**Please forward this to anyone you think might be interested**

... and, of course, if you'd prefer not to receive future newsletters from Kim, please just "Reply" with "Unsubscribe please" as the subject. Thanks 😊

# Newsletter from Kim Westerskov

Email: [kimsworkshops@gmail.com](mailto:kimsworkshops@gmail.com)

Web: [www.kimwesterskov.com](http://www.kimwesterskov.com)

20 Greerton Road, Tauranga 3112, New Zealand

Phone 07-578-5138

## Newsletter #90 – November 2020

- 1. What you don't need for great photos**
- 2. The Power of Simple**
- 3. Thirteen years of workshops**
- 4. BOP Garden & Art Festival – 4 photography talks**
- 5. Remaining 2020 programme**
- 6. "Good photos, great photos" workshop – 15<sup>th</sup> November**

*This newsletter goes out to many photographers in New Zealand and overseas - and to anybody who asks to go onto the mailing list. If you know anybody who would like to be on the mailing list, please get them to email me. It's free and they can unsubscribe at any time, of course.*



## 1. WHAT YOU DON'T NEED for GREAT PHOTOS

### WHAT YOU DON'T NEED:

1. A better camera
2. A new lens
3. Other clever gear
4. Photoshop
5. Other clever software/programs
6. A big trip to "somewhere good"

There's nothing wrong with the above list [I'd be perfectly happy with a new camera too], but they are not really what will get you better photos. So what will?

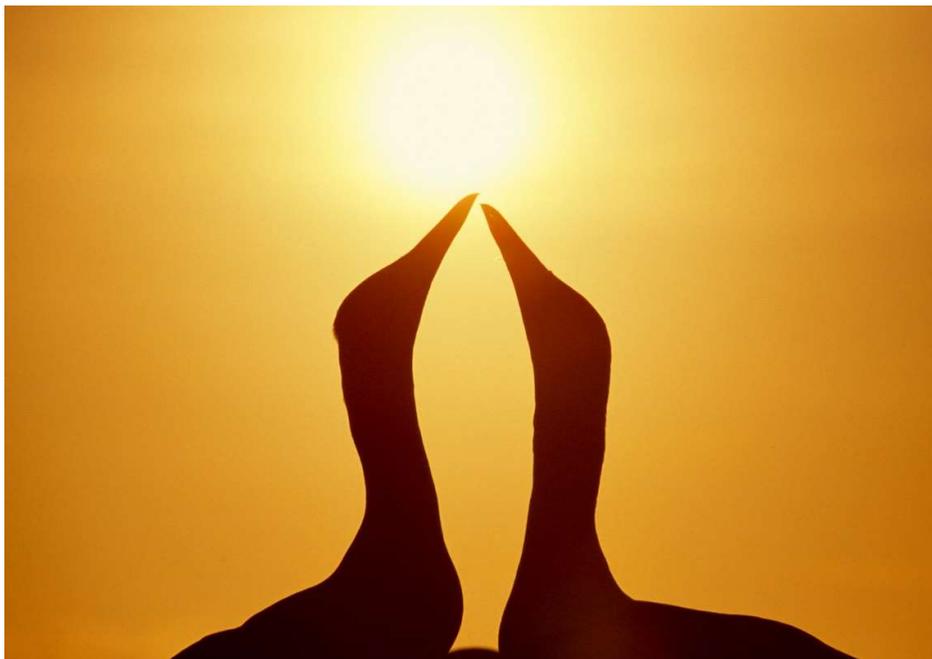
### WHAT YOU DO NEED:

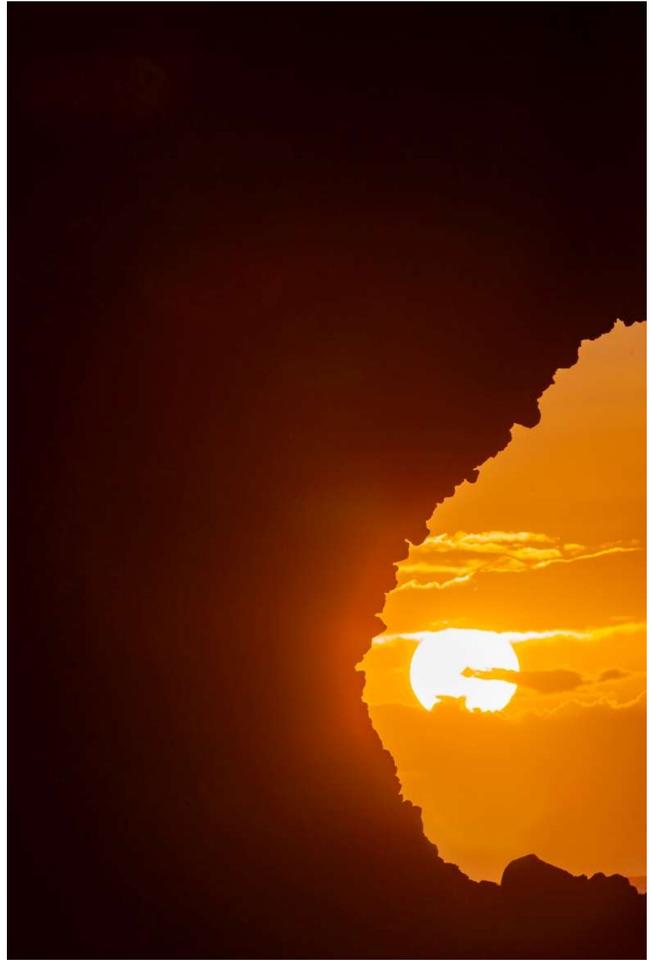
1. Your present camera will most likely do just fine
2. Your present gear
3. Time & some passion. Putting some effort in - not just pointing your camera in the general direction of something interesting and pressing the shutter without any real thinking about what you are doing. Or hope to achieve
4. A place or subject you really care about – to start photographing **deeply**
5. Quality feedback on your current photos, from someone whose opinions you respect [Facebook "Likes" won't do]

### WHAT WON'T HURT EITHER:

1. Some inspiration – from anywhere you can find inspiration
2. Some new learning: new ideas, techniques, approaches..... from anywhere & everywhere: Professor Google, magazines, friends, photo clubs, workshops, tuition ...

## 2. THE POWER OF SIMPLE





Often the most powerful photos are simple. They say what they want to say and there's nothing else getting in the way, no clutter. If there's a background, it is hardly noticed. Minimalism. Simple.





### 3. THIRTEEN YEARS of WORKSHOPS

This month we celebrate the 10<sup>th</sup> birthday of photo workshops run at my studio in Gate Pa, Tauranga. Between 2007 and 2010 I ran workshops elsewhere, initially organized by the wonderful Nyree Sherlock through the University of Waikato's Adult Education programme, and then with Bob Tulloch at his Mount Maunganui studio.

It's been a lot of fun, I've met many great people and I've learned a lot, and so – hopefully – have many photographers.

Plans for the next 10 years? More workshops. Repeats of the most popular ones. Developing new techniques and running new workshops. Old friends to see again. New people to meet. As I often say to photographers at the beginning of a workshop: "My mission statement for the day is that you walk out of here at 5 pm with a smile on your face and thinking "That was fun, and I've learned a lot". And as I also say quite often "I'm not here to try and impress you with how much technical stuff I know, but to show you the simplest and most fun ways of getting good photos".





## 4. KIM'S PRESENTATIONS at the BAY OF PLENTY GARDEN & ART FESTIVAL 19-22 November 2020

If you're into flowers, ferns, forests, gardens, and/or art, the 2020 Bay of Plenty Garden & Art Festival will be a four-day highlight for 2020 as we near the end of a highly unusual – and difficult – year.

From the festival website: “A multi-day festival pass will allow you to see all gardens on all days of the festival, visit your choice of over 70 beautiful gardens and meet more than 100 magnificent artists. You will also experience fascinating landscape gardens, exhibitors, live music, tasty food and beverages, and the amazing Festival Gallery at our festival hub “Bloom in the Bay” at the Tauranga Race Course.....”

This year the Festival Hub will be at the Tauranga Racecourse, and I'll be giving four presentations there on photography and in particular photography of the plant world. Access to the festival hub is free with a festival pass [\$65 multi-day, or \$35 one day]

<https://www.gardenandartfestival.co.nz/>

<https://www.gardenandartfestival.co.nz/bloom-in-the-bay/kim-westerskov/>

1. Thursday 19th November 5.30 – 6.30 pm. “Behind the Lens – Capturing the Plant World”. In this workshop, I'll show how to capture the beauty of flowers, ferns, grasses, and forests. Plus, how to create “artworks” from these photos. Tips, techniques, and inspirational photos.
2. Friday 20th November 3.00 – 4.00 pm. “Behind the Lens – Capturing the Plant World”. A repeat of Thursday's workshop.
3. Saturday 21st November 11.00 am – 12.00 noon. “The Power of Photography - The Light and the Darkness” This illustrated conversation focuses on the power & importance of good photography: how it helps us understand our world, our place in it, our responsibilities, and the possibilities for a better future.
4. Sunday 22nd November 2.00 – 3.00 pm. “Flowers, Ferns & Forests”. An illustrated talk on the beauty of the plant world, from intimate “art photography” of flowers to the grandeur of forests.



## 5. Kim's remaining 2020 PROGRAMME

### NOVEMBER

- Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> November. “Good Photos, Great Photos – Anytime, Anywhere” workshop. Full day plus follow-up.
- Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> November. “Photos & Coffee” informal meeting. 7.00 – 10.00pm. Free.

### DECEMBER

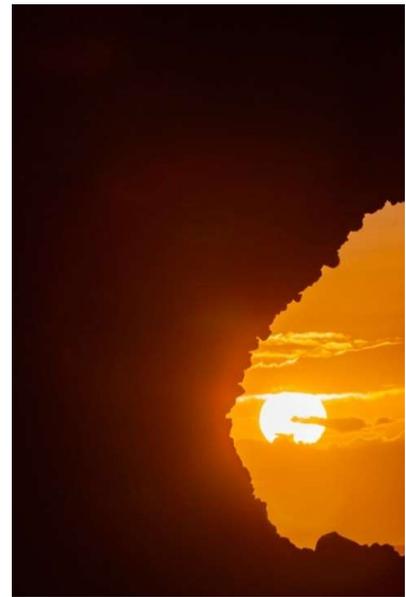
- Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> December. “Photos & Coffee” informal meeting. 7.00 – 10.00pm. Free.

## 6. "GOOD PHOTOS, GREAT PHOTOS – ANYTIME, ANYWHERE" Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> November

Will that overseas trip to Africa or Europe – or anywhere – make you a better photographer? Probably not. You'll take more photos than usual, but will they do the trip [the expense, the time, the effort, the early starts] justice? Those big trips are precious, so you owe it to yourself to bring back the best photos you can. The best approach is to become the best photographer you can BEFORE you leave on your big trip. A new camera or lens may or may not make much difference either, but a collection of new skills definitely will. And that means getting to know your camera better, the principles of photography better, and – most important of all – developing your vision – being able to "see" photos everywhere. There is no simple "secret setting" for this but it can be learned. That's what this workshop is about – "seeing" photos wherever you are. "Finding" photos wherever you are, whatever the light.

This workshop will explore the idea that you can find and take [or create] good photos wherever you are. Right where you are at the moment! Right here, right now will do just fine. Or within walking distance or 30 minutes' drive at the most. Or anywhere else. We will dispel the myth that "I would get great photos if only I could go to Paris or Africa or Antarctica .... or somewhere interesting". We explore the idea of "seeing photo possibilities", seeing and getting good [and sometimes great] photos wherever you are. LOTS of techniques, approaches, tips, ideas, inspiration, lists of "get yourself going" ideas for you to try.





**Assignment [“homework”].** At the end of the workshop, I’ll give you some “homework” [or you can choose your own], a series of assignments that will help consolidate what you’ve learned. Photographers report that they find this really useful.

**Follow Up meeting.** We meet again [at a time that suits everybody, probably a weekday evening 2-3 weeks later] to look at and evaluate your assignment photos. This evaluation can be done by email if you’re from out of town.

**Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> November. 9.00am – 5.00pm.**

**Cost:** Full course fee [which includes tuition, hand-outs, yummy catering, assignment, and follow-up evening] **\$245.** Full-time students with ID **\$145.**





## 7. INVITATION TO CAMERA CLUBS & GROUPS

If your club or group might be interested in hosting one of my presentations - or workshops - or “Field Trip + Photo Critique” days, please get in touch.

## 8. KIM'S PHOTOS & COFFEE EVENINGS

We meet on the first Tuesday of each month [except January], chat about photography, and view some of the recent photos we've taken. It's **free [no charge], supper is served**, and there's no obligation of any kind. **Please email me if you'd like to come** [it's not a big room so I need to keep an eye on numbers]. These evenings are always fun and friendly - there's usually many smiles and laughs. It's a great way of meeting up with like-minded people, **being inspired by the creativity of our group of photographers, and coming away with new ideas and tips**. There's a wide range of interests and abilities – so you're very unlikely to feel out of your depth. Bring photos if you wish, but there's no obligation to. Some people do, some don't. **The next one is on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> December** starting at 7.00 pm. 18 Greerton Road, Gate Pa, Tauranga.

## 9. PRIVATE TUITION

Yes, like you I'm usually busy doing “other stuff” too, but I can nearly always fit private tuition in, and I am very happy to do so. Two hours \$150.

Or – for just the cost of a full-day workshop [with Early Bird discount] - \$245 – you get my full attention - one-on-one - for 4 hours. This can be out in the field or at my studio, looking at your photos on my computer, going over your camera functions, looking into specific techniques, or all of the above and more – whatever you want to do. I'm here for you. For only \$475 I'm yours for the whole day.

Think not just about cost, but “value” – it's one-on-one with an experienced photographer and teacher and we cover a lot each hour. Bring a friend if you wish - no extra charge.

## ABOUT KIM

- **Passionate about photography and passionate about inspiring, guiding, and supporting photographers.**
- Over 30 years as a professional photographer and teaching photography for 13 years now
- Five First Prizes in the BBC “Wildlife Photographer of the Year” competition, the Olympics, or Oscars of nature photography worldwide.
- 18 books published [international distributions] – written and photographed by Kim.
- <https://www.sunlive.co.nz/news/220936-kim-westerskov-award-winning-photographer.html>
- [http://kimwesterskov.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/f11\\_Magazine\\_March-2015\\_Westerskov\\_2\\_4MB.pdf](http://kimwesterskov.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/f11_Magazine_March-2015_Westerskov_2_4MB.pdf)