

Photographic talent revealed by GrownUps

MIKE KILPATRICK

KAWERAU has revealed itself as a hotbed of photographic talent, with three photographers from the district winning awards in a national amateur photography competition.

The competition, run by over-50s lifestyle website grownups.co.nz, attracted 745 entries from all over New Zealand.

Kawerau-resident Lorri Adams won the open category with a photograph entitled *Windscreen*.

She took the photograph with her Cybershot digital camera after a praying mantis landed on her car as she was driving towards Te Teko.

"I always have my camera with me and managed to click off a shot," she said. "And what a shot it turned out to be."

Ms Adams was "totally blown away" when she found out she had won the competition.

"I'd seen the competition and it was stiff. There were some awesome photos

there, so to be told I was the winner really made my day."

Professional photographer Jo Currie judged Ms Adams' photograph.

"Knowing it had been judged by a professional made it all the sweeter", Ms Adams said.

"I've always enjoyed photography and even toyed with the idea of making it my career, but life got in the way."

"I've been told I have a 'good eye' and winning this competition has certainly boosted my confidence and will

spur me on to enter more competitions," she said.

Other winners from the area were Ruth Plank, whose photograph, *Sunset*, was awarded second place in the scenery category and Sylvia Edwards, whose photograph, *Boats*, received third prize in the open category.

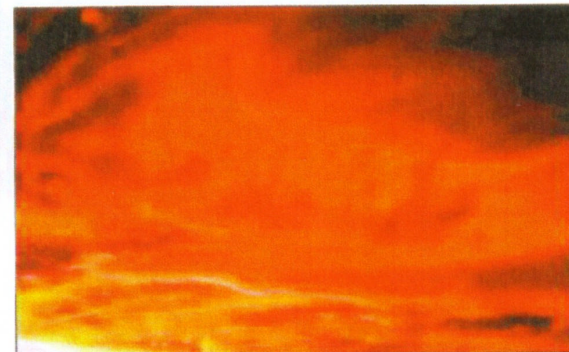
GrownUps was founded in 2006 and is the only New Zealand website designed to meet the specific needs of New Zealanders aged 50 and over.



THE PHOTOGRAPHY BUG:
Open category prize-winner
Lorri Adams' photograph
Windscreen.



EMERGING TALENT, SUBMERGED BOATS: Sylvia Edwards picture *Boats* received third prize in the open category.



SKY HIGHS:
Ruth Plank's *Sunset* won
second place in the scenery
category.