



# SNAPSHOT

Newsletter of the Hermanus Photographic Society  
March 2020

## Having fun behind and in front of camera

### Workshops introduce members to portrait photography

For some of our members it was a first experience of formal portrait photography in a studio with proper lighting. And for some it was a first opportunity to act as a model in such a set-up.



*A photographer (Carina de Klerk) in the studio behind the camera.*

Either way, the first of two introductory portrait photography workshops planned for March was fun.

It was in Keith Murray's studio in Hermanus on Friday the 6<sup>th</sup>. A second, similar workshop is planned for Wednesday the 11<sup>th</sup>.



*And another (Phil Sturgess) in the more unusual role of a model.*

Keith, the presenter of the workshop, introduced participants to the theory of portrait photography, including posing hints for models, camera settings, the use of lights and reflectors, and setting up the studio for high-key and low-key portrait photography.

The fun began with the practice of role play as photographers and models.

## Western Cape clubs standing stronger

Our club, and another three from the Western Cape, have improved their positions in the top ten of the senior section of the monthly competition for the 102 clubs affiliated to the Photographic Society of South Africa (PSSA).

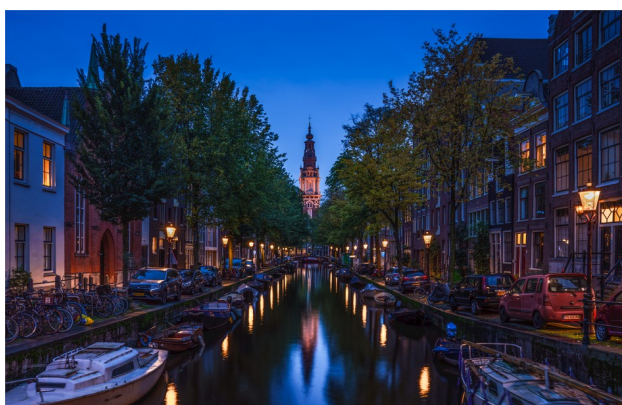
The leading Western Cape club, Cape Town, has moved up from 4<sup>th</sup> position nationally to 2<sup>nd</sup> after the announcement of the results for February. It was followed by Hermanus, up from 8<sup>th</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup>, Creative (9<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup>), and Worcester (10<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup>).

The senior competition is for Four-star members and higher. In the junior competition (up to Three-star members) the Western Cape has three clubs in the top ten – Cape Town and Creative (joint 4<sup>th</sup>), and Worcester (7<sup>th</sup>).

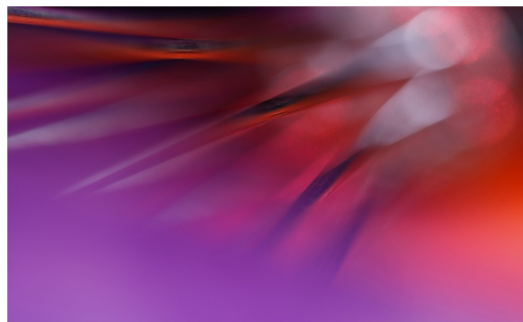
Senior Competition up to February			
Club	Score	W Cape	Nat
Cape Town	242	1	2
Hermanus	222	2	7
Creative	221	3	8
Worcester	220	4	9
Paarl	174	5	26
Swartland	163	6	32
Helderberg	137	7	42
Fish Hoek	132	8	45
Tafelberg	125	9	50

The announcement of the results for February took the competition to the two-thirds mark – eight months out of twelve completed, with four remaining. The competition lasts from July 2019 to June 2020.

A lot can still happen in the last four months. Our position is still not safe, neither nationally nor in the Western Cape.



Our club's February senior entry, "Uniquely Amsterdam" by Hestie das Neves (left), and junior entry, "Fighting Stallions" by Mari Botes, each got a score of 33/45.



Our club's March senior entry, "Watchful" by Charles Naudé (left), and junior entry, "Macro Magic" by Ingrid Grundlingh.

## Scoring trophies and other awards

Elizma Fourie was the second runner-up in February of the monthly Website Competition for individual members of the Photographic Society of South Africa (PSSA).

Her score of 38/45 for her entry, "Lonely", moved her up to 2<sup>nd</sup> place among 166 participants, with a total score of 237 over the first seven months of the competition.

Another member from our club, Charles Naudé, is in 3<sup>rd</sup> place with a total of 235.



Second runner-up: "Lonely" by Elizma Fourie (above right)

### Results: Madiba Bay Salon

Charles Naudé – 1 Merit + 5 acceptances

Elizma Fourie – 6 acceptances

David Wilson – 2 acceptances

Deon Steenkamp – 2 acceptances

Merit: "One Cub Came to Drink" by Charles Naudé (right)



### International result: PECC Audio-visual Festival

Thomas Niemeyer – 1 acceptance for "Owl Hour"

## **Overlooked result from last month: TAF Digital Salon**

Cathy Bruce – 5 acceptances

## **Light at end of Photo Vault tunnel**

**By Kobus Botes**

One of the reasons for our club's change-over to Photo Vault for submitting images for our monthly evaluation was to make life easier for the responsible committee member to update and maintain members' points and promotions.

However, over the past six months getting a firm base to start from has proven to be a lot more difficult than initially anticipated.

Firstly, I discovered that a lot of mistakes and inconsistencies had crept into our system over the years. I have corrected as many as I could, and will contact the members from whom I need more historical information.

Secondly, I found that Photo Vault does not work as expected. This could be the result of how I set it up. I need to collect examples of what goes wrong, and when, to take it up with the Photo Vault administrator. That should be sorted out in the not too distant future.

The upshot of these teething problems is that for now we will continue using our old scoring system until I am confident that Photo Vault can take over.

As far as the latest points are concerned, members may notice that in some respects their points may not follow logically on those of last year. The reason is that I have corrected the historical errors that I have found. And it is not impossible that I have made some new mistakes in the process.

Members are welcome to contact me by e-mail ([kbotes@gmail.com](mailto:kbotes@gmail.com)), should they wish to know how I arrived at their points. I will forward them my calculations (including an explanation) as well as the supporting documents.

Please note that I am not blaming or denigrating the creators and/or maintainers of the spreadsheet. This spreadsheet is a fairly complicated beast that requires a deep understanding of how it fits together, as well as a good understanding of how a spreadsheet and formulas work, in order to be able to properly administer it.

Picking up some of these errors required analysing the history of a particular element in order to see what went wrong and when.

Please be patient with points that look suspect or incorrect. The light at the end of the tunnel is getting brighter.

## Forthcoming events

**Our April meeting** will be in the Hermanus Dutch Reformed Church Hall on Wednesday the 1<sup>st</sup> at 19:00. Members may enter up to three images of their choice, and one image on the Set Subject, "Human Portrait" / "Mens-portret" (colour or monochrome), all for evaluation. All submissions must be via Photo Vault Online, and all scores will count for promotion.

The set-subject image of the month will be decided by voting. The photographer of the chosen image may speak briefly on it, while the lead judge may comment on any of the set-subject images.

**Our Photography Know-how** for everyone, which is planned for every third Wednesday of the month, will be "Cellphone photography", presented by Cathy Bruce, on 18 March. It will be open to the public, at a small fee to cover costs. The February Know-how on "Camera basics", on the 19<sup>th</sup>, was attended by seven club members and seven members of the public.

**Our monthly outing** consists of two introductory studio portrait photography workshops, planned for Friday 6 March and Wednesday 11 March, and presented by Keith Murray. (Read the lead story.) The studio can accommodate only 6 to 8 participants, hence splitting the outing into two similar presentations.

**The next First Friday Art Walk** will be on 3 April. Our club print exhibition which forms part of that will be at FotoFirst.

**Forthcoming Salons**, with closing dates (details on the PSSA website):

Benoni National PDI Salon 14 March

PSSA National Salon 21 March

Kriel PDI Salon 28 March

Edenvale PDI Salon 11 April

PSSA Up & Coming Competition 18 April

Boksburg PDI Salon 25 April

**The Cape Photographers 2020 Congress** will be held in Cape St Francis from Monday 11 to Thursday 14 May. Details on the PSSA website.

## Committee

This is the newly elected committee for 2020, with portfolios allocated.

Elizma Fourie – President, website

082 499 5116 ([elizma@adminevolution.co.za](mailto:elizma@adminevolution.co.za))

Danie Morkel – Secretary

084 513 3206 ([morkelwade@telkomsa.net](mailto:morkelwade@telkomsa.net))

Cathy Bruce-Wright – Treasurer, membership

082 558 1636 ([arixoma@icloud.com](mailto:arixoma@icloud.com))

Hestie das Neves – Judges

082 462 6392 ([onruslagoon@yahoo.com](mailto:onruslagoon@yahoo.com))

Daniel Reddie – Audio-visual, equipment, technology

084 642 0038 ([everredi@iafrica.com](mailto:everredi@iafrica.com))

David Wilson – Exhibitions, media

064 745 3552 ([david@watermarkinternational.com](mailto:david@watermarkinternational.com))

Kobus Botes – Photo Vault, equipment set-up, point sheets

084 941 1175 ([kbotes@gmail.com](mailto:kbotes@gmail.com))

All of them are available to assist you with your queries.

## Newsletter

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Fluit-fluit, my storie is uit.