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NEWSLETTER: September 2022

Pictures of the Month



Aerial Battle by Willie Dalglish

Willie tells us about the shot overleaf.....

"I was sitting at the waterhole at Kij Kij approx.. midday when I heard Falcons screeching.

I looked up and saw 4 Lanner Falcons involved in an arial get togethers above me.

The pair in question lacked talons and started falling to the ground. About 30 meters above ground the birds photographed released one another and the one grabbed the others tail. The camera used was a Nikon D500 and I was shooting at 10 frames a second.. This pic was the sharpest. My shutter speed was 1250 sec. @ F8 and ISO was at 320. The lens used was my Nikon 200-400 F4 set at 400 m/m (Crop Factor gave my 600 m/m."

Thanks Willie

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Message from the Chair - September 2022

New Committee; - Roles and responsibilities

At our first committee meeting of the new club year, earlier this month, the following committee roles and responsibilities were assigned.

Doug Emanuel	Chairperson, Treasurer and new member inductions
Sonia Elliott	Vice Chairperson and Membership
Pam Brighton	Secretary and member communications
Eileen Covarr	Scorer and PSSA liaison
Carol Phillips	Set subject and competitions
Anne Hrabar	Judges co-ordination and judges training
Peter Oosthuizen	Newsletter, Outings and internal Auditor
Andre Venter	Webmaster, social media and junior member development.
Maureen vd Heever	No specific portfolio but will assist as required, especially with print media interactions and modernisation initiatives for our website, newsletter and social media.

Promotions

Congratulations to Andre Venter on his promotion to 4 Star. Well done, Andre!

Projector calibration

Thanks to a training session by expert Kirk West, we are now able to calibrate our laptop/projector combination to deliver correct colours, brightness and contrast. The initial calibration has been done, in the exact environment where club night images are screened. This process will be repeated every so often, to ensure member images are projected in the best possible way. We have also been trained in the calibration of desktop monitors. As before, the Xrite calibrator is available for member use.

New member promotions

Whilst our usual initiatives to attract new members will continue, your committee has decided that members of the public may be invited to limited participation in our outings and workshops, to stimulate their interest in photography and in joining our club.

Uninterruptable Power Supply (UPS) upgrade

The upgrade is complete, and we are set to continue club activities, regardless of load shedding.

My sincere thanks to our committee for entrusting me with another year of coordinating our club affairs.

Doug Emanuel

The Knysna Photographic Society is proudly affiliated with the
PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY OF SOUTH AFRICA



September gallery of high scoring images

The Old Guard



Moving In- Willie Dagleish



Light bulb – Carol Phillips



Love and reflection – Cathy Birkett



In the spotlight – Anne Hrabar



Water Tank – Andre Venter



Eggsplasion – Gill Maskell



Dragon of Middle Earth – Sonia Elliott



Depression is a silent killer – Andre Venter



Colorful marriage – Veronica de Voogt



Buffels Kreature – Des Kleineibst

Top Scoring Junior images



Leucospermum Ayoba Orange – Kim Gaskell



I see you – Maureen van den Heever



The Welding Man – Gary Hansel

*“If you are out there shooting, things will happen for you.
If you’re not out there, you’ll only hear about it.”*

– Jay Maisel

Editor's Choice

My Photography, My Rules.

David du Chemin

June 23, 2019

You know how I'm always going on and on about how there are no rules in photography? I'm going to back-pedal a bit on that because the more I look at my own creative life, the more I realize that I have some very important rules. Rules without which I don't make the best photographs of which I'm capable. Rules that keep me centered and grounded and make me more creative, not less.

But they're *my* rules. They are the creative boundaries on which I have signed off personally and to which I willingly submit myself, and they're rules I break at my own peril, which I discover every time I decide to go AWOL or get lazy about them. I discovered these rules over years of working with myself, knowing my own strengths and weakness, and finding out early that I flail around creatively when I allow myself the luxury of having no rules at all.

You need to find your own rules—not anyone else's—but perhaps you'll see something helpful in these.

Create challenging constraints for your work, as soon as possible. Define the terms. My latest project is simple but well constrained and makes it easier not to let myself off the hook or take the easy way out. I choose constraints that challenge me, that force me to learn and risk and fail. I do not choose the easy way, because that bores me quickly and I've never created good work while bored.

What could these constraints be for you? You could start with time: every Wednesday you photograph for two hours, no exceptions. Or every time guests visit; you make their portrait. Make it a rule. Or decide this year you're only working in black and white or with one lens. Or that for this project you're only using natural light. Challenging constraints make better photographs (eventually) but you have to choose them and lean into the challenge.

Constraints give me a problem to solve, but far from restraining me, they make me more creative; within their boundaries, I am free to run amok with all the creative anarchy I want.

Trust Your Gut. It's not infallible, and it has to be willing to learn, but trusting my gut to lead me to new ideas and in new directions is the only way to get to work that is truly my own. When I doubt, when I'm just not sure or am feeling overwhelmed with options (which is often), I can tell you that I listen to my gut. Every time I have transgressed on this one, every time I have played it safe,

listened to the crowd and hedged my bets, I have made work that is mediocre and, worse, not truly mine.

Celebrate Small Wins. Is it the end of the day and you wrote that thing you needed to write or made that one photograph you wanted to make? Time for a glass of wine. You finished that chapter, or took another step forward in that body of work you're creating? Let's go to dinner. Every big win is only ever the accumulation of small wins, so anything I can do to get myself jazzed about small wins and taking next steps, I do it. If I think of the pressure to "get that project done," it's paralyzing. If I focus on small wins, piece by piece, it happens. **Creativity is a work ethic more than it is a talent.**

Never Compare. When I was about 13 years old, my school announced a cartoon contest. I saw my future laid out before me, and the contest (specifically, winning that contest) was the first step on a journey that I was sure would lead to fortune and fame.

I worked hard on that entry, perfecting a caricature of the music teacher I liked so much. I submitted my entry long before the deadline and waited, using the time to work on my acceptance speech. When the winners were announced, I could hardly sit still—until it became known that my cartoon was the only entry. I was OK with winning by default, was prepared to change my press release, even to forgo my planned celebrations and just tuck my award quietly into its gilded frame and hang it prominently in my (mother's) home. What I was not prepared for was the announcement that I had won second place.

Second place. In a contest with, apparently, only myself.

True story. I tell it to you because we're often told not to compare ourselves to others but that "the only person you compare yourself to is yourself." It sounds wise, unless you're the kind of guy who wins second place when competing against himself.

Even comparing yourself to the person you see in the mirror can be toxic, because we don't see ourselves any more objectively than we see others.

We see failure and fear and secrets held too tight for too long. We see the ghosts of the past and the hopes of the future, but do many of us really ever see ourselves as we are? Probably not. And definitely not when comparing ourselves, whether that's to others or to ourselves.

Don't compare. Not with others and not with yourself. Don't look for similarities, don't look for differences. Don't size yourself up, don't allow yourself to feel better or worse based on where you are, where you've been or where others are or are not. Why must we know which rung of the ladder we stand upon? What good does it do us? More importantly, what harm does it set us up for? If you're me, plenty.

One more story. When I was a kid, I was riding my bike, though doing so while looking over my shoulder (don't ask). Suddenly I was lying on the ground with a splitting headache looking up at a car. I couldn't believe it: I had been hit by a car. But when I stood up and shook it off, the car was parked—no driver in sight, just a big, head-shaped dent in the back.

The car didn't hit me; I hit the car.

In hindsight, it seems obvious that I shouldn't have been looking over my shoulder. But if I'd been looking at myself in a mirror, I still would have hit the car. In this dodgy metaphor, the former is what happens when we compare ourselves to others; the latter is what happens when we compare ourselves to the image we see of ourselves. Neither should be mistaken for looking forward.

Look at your work. Find joy in it. Learn from others, sure, but keep your eyes on the work. Don't worry about what others are doing or thinking. Don't worry about whether you're getting better or doing it right.

Do your work. Let it challenge you, get it done, trust your gut, and celebrate the small wins. You'll find your way just fine.

For the Love of the Photograph,
David



I'm David duChemin. I'm a photographer, author, adventurer, and entrepreneur. I want to see this world for the astonishing place it is, and help others do the same. Welcome here

Ed's note:

David shares his blog freely with camera clubs and enthusiasts. To see more of his work, go to - <https://davidduchemin.com/>

SALON ACCEPTANCES KPS SEPTEMBER 2022

KOSMOS SALON JULY 22

Cathy	3
Willem	2
Peter	2

PRETORIA 90TH ANNIVERSARY SALON

Sonia	2
Cathy	2
Willem	3
Eileen	3

7th BOSVELD FOTOGRAFIE SALON

Eileen	1
Anne	3
Willem	3
Willie	10 well done Willie!

**“We take photos as a return ticket
to a moment otherwise lost”**

- Andy Griffin

Set Subject- September

It's great to see the increased interest, and participation, in the Set Subjects. We had a total of seventeen images submitted some of which are shown below –



Misty – Anne Hrabar



Storm Front – Paul Rixom



Threatening clouds 2 – Eileen Covarr



Forest in the Clouds – Kim Gaskell



Reflections in the Mist – Sonia Elliott



A Knysna winter morning – Maureen van den Heever



lightning strike – Carol Phillips



Life beyond Eskom – Terence Clarke



Approaching storm – Cathy Birkett



Jakkels n Wolf – Martyn Hill

Set subject for October

Flowers

Peter Oosthuizen hosted a presentation on Flower Photography which is available on the club Facebook page under “Files.” Anyone interested can click on it to view.

Some interesting tips can be gleaned from the following links

Taking your Flower Photographs from Ordinary to Extraordinary by Rosie Lalonde
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MXjmKskPEr4&t=3413s>

FLOWER PHOTOGRAPHY: Working with PHOTOSHOP'S DEPTH BLUR (NEURAL FILTER)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d1I818AAgH8&t=519s>

5 Ways to Compose Photographs of Plants and Flowers
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V4LwW6yQXAM>

The Art of Flower Photography
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=stJ3RorkK5Y>

November Competition

Using Shadows

I have borrowed this introduction from Christina Harman to whet our appetites for the competition

“As photographers, we pay a great deal of attention to light, and for a good reason. Light is the basis of all photography – and impacts what we see and how we see it!

Often, lighting makes or breaks an image, and knowing how to work with light will help you capture breathtaking photographs.

But while we focus a great deal on light, darkness – the absence of light, is often overlooked. This is unfortunate since darkness and shadows are important as well. The play between light and dark and the contrast between different shades of light can significantly impact composition, and knowing how to work with these contrasting elements can result in some truly spectacular images.

Shadows can help to direct attention to a specific point in the composition. They can reveal form or hide features that may be better left unseen. They can also be used to add a hint of drama, emotion, interest, or mystery to a photo. And, of course, they can emphasize the light, drawing attention to highlights in an image.

While it takes practice to perfect the balance of perfect light and darkness in your photos, getting started with shadows is relatively simple – there isn't a huge learning curve required to begin. Let's look at different ways to use shadows to create dynamic – and exciting images.”

To see Christina's stunning images, go to

<https://contrastly.com/working-with-shadows-in-your-photography/>

Next Meeting

19 October – live at Belvidere Manor

2 images may be submitted _

Deadline for submissions via Photovault – 8 October before 12:00 p.m.

Judges

The judges for October will be Luana Laubscher, Gillian Maskell and the remote judge will be Kirk West, FPSSA, of the Port Elizabeth Camera Club.

Kirk gave us an interesting talk on Colour Management and Screen Calibration on 3 September. We suggest that particular attention is paid to blacks and whites in images for submission 😊

Social Media

Facebook

Our Facebook page gives members the opportunity to highlight images, talk about ideas, get honest feedback without fear of criticism. To join contact Carol for an invitation.

WhatsApp

Find the group on WhatsApp under KPS Creatives. There's usually interesting discussion as well as stimulating posts and links.

Online Resources

There are many options on the internet covering every aspect of our craft. Some are excellent, some not so good.

The following are worthwhile

Landscape photography

Christian Hoiberg - <https://www.capturelandscapes.com>

Many different articles on most aspects of landscape photography, free resources, e-books

Alister Benn - Expressive photography - <https://www.youtube.com/c/ExpressivePhotography/featured>

Landscape photographer of the year 2019. Technique, interviews, ideas

Photo Cascadia <https://www.photocascadia.com/>

A group of excellent photographers who share tips and techniques on their site

Post processing

Photoshop Colin Smith | <https://photoshopcafe.com/>

Lightroom Julianne Kost <https://jkost.com/blog/>

Both the above have free tips and tricks to help improve your post processing skills and to add to your knowledge

Bird photography

Ari Hazeghi <http://arihazeghiphotography.com/>

An outstanding bird photographer who freely shares tips and techniques

Useful blogs and forums

Back Country Gallery Steve Perry's forum <https://bcgforums.com/>

All aspects of nature, wildlife and landscape discussed. Steve is the author of several excellent e-books

Fred Miranda <https://www.fredmiranda.com/>

An all-round forum covering all genres, competitions, critique and gear reviews. Specialist sub forums for different camera makes, landscape, wildlife, black & white, street, people, architecture etc.

John Caponigro <https://www.johnpaulcaponigro.com/blog/>

A philosophical approach to photography and life. Many practical tips and techniques

Weekly e-magazines

DP Review <https://www.dpreview.com/>

Up to date news and reviews. Weekly contests (free). Many articles of interest on all aspects

Amateur Photographer <https://www.amateurphotographer.co.uk/>

The free, abridged, version of the oldest photographic magazine. Many reviews, techniques, tips and articles on every aspect of photography

Key dates 2022/3

Month	Meeting date	Image submission deadline	Semi- annual Competition	Set subject
October	19	8		Flowers
November	17	5	17*(Using Shadows)	
January 2023	18	7		TBA
February	15	4		
March	15	4		TBA
April	19	8		

* Venue - Knysna Golf Club combined with Club Night and year end function.

National Salons (To December 2022)

2022-10-01 9th Swartland Salon 2021
2022-10-09 Danube Autumn Circuit 2022 (Edenvale Photographic Club)
2022-10-15 Kroonstad Fotoklub 65th Jubilee PDI Salon
2022-10-22 PSSA 22nd Up and Coming Competition
2022-10-29 International "Glass" theme AV Salon for 2022
2022-11-05 Tygerberg Photographic Society Salon 2022
2022-11-12 7th Centurion Camera Club Digital Salon

Anyone may enter a Salon. To find out more on how to do so, go to the Photographic Society of South Africa's website or ask one of the senior club members.

Subscriptions

Subscriptions are due on 1st September and are as set out in the following table

For the period 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023:

Active Member	R390.00
Active Member and Spouse/Partner	R600.00
Scholar in Full-time Education	R240.00
Social Member	R300.00

Subscription fee is reduced by 50% if joining between January and September

Payments may be made direct to the Society's Bank Account:

Nedbank Knysna, Branch Code: 198765, Current account No: 108 906 2133

Account Name: Knysna Photographic Society t/a KPS

(Payment ref: Name and Subs)

Food for thought

