



www.knysnaphotosociety.com

NEWSLETTER: February 2023

IMPORTANT

Set subject for April

Panoramas

“Panorama Paul”

We are privileged to have Paul Bruins attending our meeting on 15 March at Belvidere to guide us in the techniques of photographing superb panoramas.

Paul lives in Knysna on the edge of the forest and is a semi-retired professional landscape photographer.. He has organized and hosted a number of photographic exhibitions, workshops, and tours around the world. His photos have also won numerous competitions and awards and have been published in calendars, magazines, and books. You can see some of his work on Flickr and Facebook.

Pictures of the Month

Senior



Cathy Birkett - Chameleon net Traverse

Junior

Junior picture of the month was shared between Sharon Long and Gary Hansel



Sharon Long - Wild Desert Horses



Gary Hansel - Custodire.

Sharon Long -

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Message from the Chair

New Member

We wish new member Alan King a warm welcome. We hope you have a long and stimulating stay with us Alan.

Instagram

Our Instagram page (“Knysnaphotosoc”) continues to attract “followers”. We now have 47 and over 20 of them are non-members. This seems to be a great way of publicising our club to the community

The German Photocup International circuit

Arrangements have now been finalised and we will notify members shortly regarding group discounts.

Image of the Year

Your committee has approved a proposal to introduce an “Image of the Year Award”, for both Juniors and Seniors. The details will be posted on our webpage shortly.

Salon Disqualifications

PSSA have announced tighter measures re disqualifications of images submitted to salons which do not meet the category criteria. See detail elsewhere in this Newsletter.

Doug Emanuel

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



February gallery of high scoring images

Senior



Sales – Willem de Voogt

*Willem was kind enough to act as a remote judge this month from Holland.
For those of us who weren't able to appreciate his talent as a photographer his website shows many
remarkable images*

<https://www.devoogt-fotografie.nl/>

Definitely worth a visit



Willie Dagleish - Red Veined Drowwing



Des Kleineibst - Platbank Sunrise



Anne Hrabar - Protective mom-



Eileen Covarr - Overberg magic



Leoni Hattingh - Practice run



Sonia Elliott - Penguin Patrol



Willie Dalgleish - Orange Breasted Sunbird Female



Peter Oosthuizen – Hope



Luana Laubscher - Lady of the Light



Emma-PO-Hattingh-Leoni -MB



Veronica de Voogt - Hands at work



Maureen van den Heever - Before the storm -



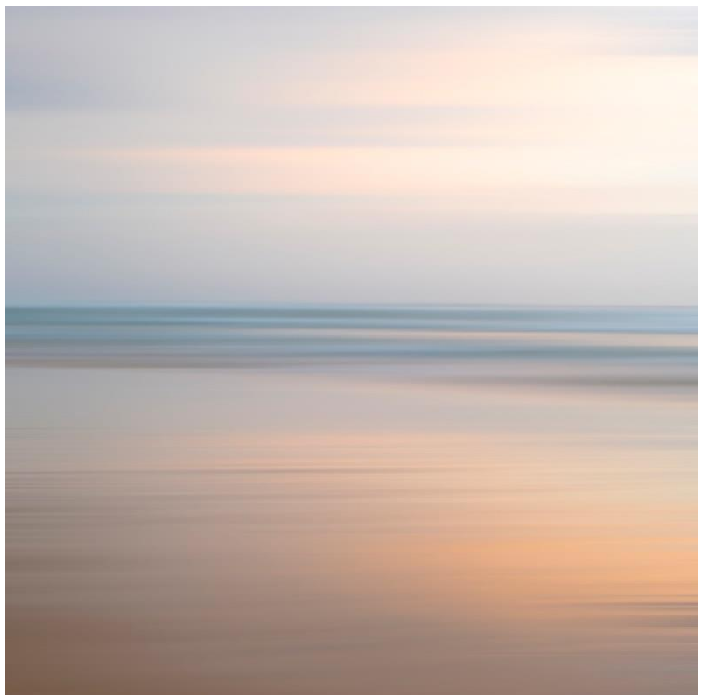
Kim Gaskell - Hour Glass

Set subject – Zen

Carol Phillips, who tirelessly organises our set subjects and competitions wrote –
“With 20 entries this time we had more images than we have had for a while. The images were great and nearly all entries fitted the theme very well. There was lots of discussion and it was difficult to choose a favourite. Some serene, elegant and perfect Zen images.



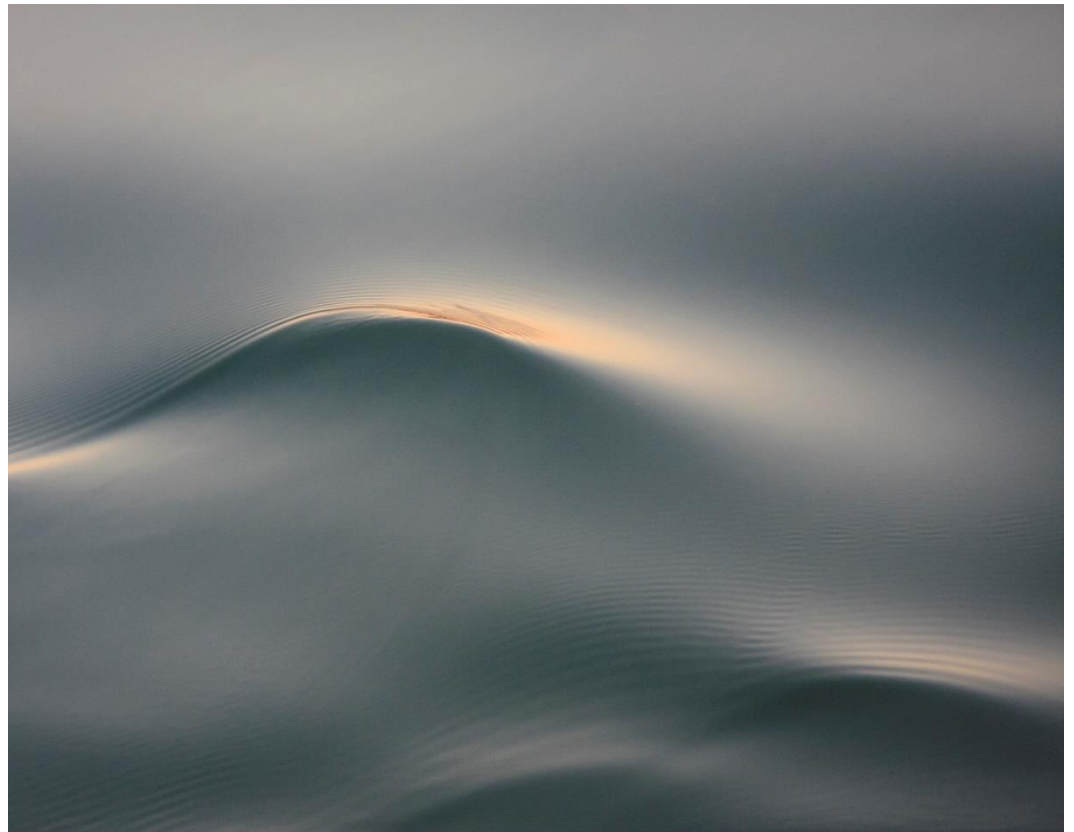
Lonely Lapwing – Kim Gaskell



Sunset Zen – Luana Laubscher



Still morning – Pam Brighton



Wake ripples – Doug Emanuel

*Thanks to Pam Brighton for an insightful and stimulating presentation
that was very well received*

SALON ACCEPTANCES KPS FEBRUARY 2023:

TYGERBERG 8th SALON 2022

Cathy	1
Willie	2
Gill	2
Veronica	2
Willem	3
Carol	3
Eileen	3
Anne	4

3rd BETHAL SALON 2022

Carol	1
Veronica	1
Doug	1
Peter	1
Eileen	3
Willem	5
Willie	8 includes 1 COM

7th INTERNATIONAL CONTEST UNLIMITED PHOTO 2023

Anne	9
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Editor's Choice

Eileen Covarr sits at the back of the room on club nights competently handling the TOP system and announcing the scores. However, she does much more than that on behalf of the club including liaising with PSSA, handling entries and sending images to judges as well as maintaining our score sheets. Modest and soft spoken she is a superb photographer and our 1st Master Diamond.

My Photographic Journey – Eileen Covarr

I was born in Cape Town one of ten children. My mother's father was a professional photographer, and when she left school she entered his business hand-painting black and white photographs. So, my love of photography may have come from my mother, but it wasn't until I was in my mid-50s that I discovered this great journey.

When I was first married I always enjoyed a hobby. It started with cake decorating in my early 20s. Paddy and I moved to Plettenberg Bay in 1980 with our son and daughter aged 4 and 2 respectively. I then went into track suit making, which Anne Hrabar will remember all too well- the oversized tracksuits I made, which my poor children and husband were forced to wear in public!! I then started Calligraphy which I really enjoyed for a few years, from there, I went into interior decorating, and painted our entire house, room by room with paint effects which took me two years to complete.

My journey into photography began when I acquired Sony video camera which had a slot for stills 3 megapixels in size. I found I was using the tiny card far more than the video, so I decided to purchase a Nikon E8800 compact camera.

I had no knowledge of photography or cameras at that stage. I attended my first lecture at U3A in Plett where John Elmitt was the lecturer. I still remember, we had to bring our cameras with us to the lecture, he asked me in front of all present if my camera was a DSLR, I froze and answered yes, only to find out later this was not the case!!

I then realized I was becoming passionate about photography, of which I still knew very little. It was at a U3A meeting I met Geoff McIleron, a well-known bird photographer. Eventually we twisted his arm into giving us lectures at his home in Natures Valley, where Anne and I attended weekly classes. Shortly after we began Geoff informed us that John Elmitt, Gigi Lewis and Brian Mullin had started a photographic club in Knysna. Anne and I joined KPS in October 2007. Being a shy person, I still remember asking Gigi Lewis if I may call her Gigi, and not Mrs Lewis.

Besides Geoff McIleron, Gigi had a profound influence on my photography. She gave me so much support and encouragement. She suggested I start entering salons, I think I had just become a 3 star worker. I remember being so intimidated by our Judges when my images appeared on the screen, my heart would start to beat faster, and I would start to shake.

"I really find the donkey's face "quite disturbing" Sonia a wonderful photographer stated, (please don't take offence Sonia).

Once I entered a photo of Carmine Bee Eaters and John Elmitt's comment was: "my heart aches for this photographer, there is nothing in focus in this image".

My great love has always been landscape photography, and I enjoyed nature images as well. When I joined the club, we were all 1 Star workers; Pam and Stan Brighton, Anne Hrabar, Sonia Elliott, John Elmitt, Brian Mullin, Gigi Lewis, and Bev and Rob Wood and a few others.

I still remember when I reached 3 Star the congratulatory email sent to me by Brian Mullin who ominously said: “just remember it gets much more difficult from here on” – and it did.

Carmine Bee Eaters



Someone else who has had a tremendous influence on my photography is my friend Anne Hrabar. I used to ask her if she would look at my images before I entered them for judging, she would advise me, and quite often point out to me how skew my horizons were!! She hasn't changed 😊 We have attended many workshops and Congresses together and both enjoy taking landscape images together. Thanks, Anne, for the many years we have enjoyed our photography, and the times you said to me: “come on let's go”.

I have mentioned before when I started entering images at club I used to literally shake in my chair when my image came up for judging, and coming home and telling Paddy “those crazy judges only gave me a Bronze” I also remember when our club invited Adri and Roel van Oudheusden to judge for us, that was my first NO SCORE.

I continued entering salons over the years, and eventually collected a few Diamond ratings. In 2012 I gathered up courage to try for my LPSSA, this was quite a task for me, so anyone who is going to try, please do, if you don't succeed the first time, keep on trying, it took me 3 entries to eventually get my LPSSA, with the help of Chris Daly, who spent endless hours advising, and guiding me.



FEMFATALES EXHIBITION

Also, in 2012 we had an exhibition in the Old Gaol, which was the brainchild of Gigi Lewis, we called this 'Femfatales', being a ladies only exhibition. The exhibitors were Gigi Lewis, Mary Hunter, Luana
Windmill heaven

Laubscher, Anne Hrabar and me, we had an opening night with speeches and served wine, and much festivity, and were well supported by KPS club members.



First light

Over the years I attended every workshop that I could which our club organised and have learned so much from everyone.

From then I managed to climb the ladder slowly. Somehow I didn't have much problem getting my salon acceptances to progress from star to star, as I had started very early on at Gigi's advice. I do believe it is more difficult now than it was back then. My problem with the Star ladder progress seemed, in my case, to be with our KPS judges. I always laughed, as salons seemed much kinder to me than our

judges. I got to a stage when being a Master Silver, I just couldn't satisfy our club judges to get a Gold, with the result that I started what I called the SILVER CLUB, as I never seemed to manage a Gold. I became so despondent that I suggested I become CHAIRLADY of the Silver Club. So, to anyone who gets 'stuck' don't give up you will progress.

However, eventually I managed to climb that last rung of the ladder and became a Master Diamond. I was awarded my DPSSA for Open Colour from PSSA a few years ago, and am now on the journey to gain my EPSSA, however I have a few more acceptances to attain 😊. As I mentioned, I think it is more difficult these days, as there are so many excellent and many professional photographers in PSSA now. I'm not sure if I will ever gain the confidence to apply for my APSSA, and admire our members who have attained this..

I have tried many genres of photography over the years, and was awarded 2 International medals for Monochrome, but seem to be slipping badly lately. My great love will always be Landscape Photography, as I love and enjoy the beautiful place we live in.

I have to thank everyone in KPS, all our judges, whose constructive comments I used to better my photographic journey, those who gave me encouragement along the long journey and who still encourage me today. I have enjoyed and learnt so much from KPS and hope I can give back to KPS what you have given me over the years.

Some of my favourite and more successful images, I hope these show how with the help of KPS and all they have to offer, I have progressed, and good luck to anyone starting this wonderful journey.



Selected for printing by PSSA for Exhibition in China



Round the bend

International Medal



Completely submerged



Venetian Vase



Stillbay at sunset



Light on the wreck



On the beach



Rising mist

Next Meeting

March 15 – live at Belvidere Manor

2 images may be submitted

Deadline for submissions via Photovault – 4 March before 12:00 p.m.

Judges

The judges for March will be Anette Riemers from PE Camera Club, Luana Laubscher and Peter Oosthuizen.

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.

Quote of the Month

*A true photograph need not be explained,
nor can it be contained in words
– Ansell Adams*

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

Club Calendar – 2023

	Closing Date for Entries	Monthly Meeting	Set subject Presentation	Set Subject	Bi-annual Competition
February	4	15		Zen	
March	4	15	15		
April	8	19		Panorama	The Spirit of Music
May	6	17	11		25
June	10	21		Food	
July	8	19	13		
August	5	16		Backlight	
September	9	20	12		
February	7	18		Book or movie title	Wheels
February	5	16			16

- Note that the competition closing and meeting dates are in red

National Salons

(To June 2023)

[2023-02-25 5de Brandpunt Fotoklub Nasionale Salon \(Brochure available\)](#)

[2023-03-04 Southern Suburbs 7th National Digital Salon](#)

[2023-03-11 6th Rustenburg National Digital Salon](#)

[2023-03-25 PSSA 23rd Up & Coming Salon](#)

[2023-04-08 PSSA National Salon of Photography 2023](#)

[2023-04-15 5th Hibiscus Coast National Digital Salon of Photography](#)

[2023-04-29 6th Paarl National Salon of Photography](#)

[2023-05-06 5th Alberton Camera Club National PDI Salon](#)

[2023-05-27 Kriel Foto club 2nd Digital Salon of Photography](#)

[2023-06-03 South African Visual Arts Society \(SAVAS\) 3rd National Salon](#)

[2023-06-10 PSSA National AV Salon](#)

[2023-06-17 2nd Springs Photographic Club National Digital Salon](#)

[2023-06-24 Western Cape Youth Photographers National Salon 2023](#)

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.

**PSSA Salon
Disqualification (DQ) Database**

Report Back - Feb 2023

Dear Member

Over the past few years, it became apparent that a number of members were transgressing the rules when entering salons and other PSSA-sanctioned competitions. In some instances, an honest mistake was made, in others, it was a lack of knowledge as to what is and is not allowed.

It was with this background that the Board decided that some sort of audit was required. Thank you to everyone for submitting their images, we do appreciate it.

A very big thank you must go to Philip de Lange who is the Board member who was tasked with doing the audit – he has sent 565 emails, downloaded 37.65 GB images, and checked each and every one. Thank you, Phillip.

We will continue to call for RAW images from the winning images for each salon and one randomly selected salon will be audited each year.

Except for those images found to have been manipulated no other images will be kept. All other RAW images have been and will continue to be, deleted.

Following are the results of the audit.

1. DQ list prior to Swartland Salon

As of July 2021, all salon entrants whose images were shortlisted for awards (medals or COMs) in categories where manipulation was not allowed were asked to supply the raw images to prove that no manipulation had taken place.

The reason for this action was because it had become apparent that quite a number of the entrants were transgressing the rules in one way or another and this practice needed to be stopped.

During this period (18 months and 29 salons) images were requested from a total of 143 photographers.

A total number of 193 images were submitted and an extremely high percentage 49.7% (96 images) – were found to have transgressed the rules.

What was worrying to the Board was the fact that the percentage was so high and this was only amongst the top 10% or thereabout of the entries and the question was raised – what about the rest?

2. Swartland Salon Audit

After discussion at the Board meeting in October 2022, it was agreed to run an audit of one randomly selected salon each year and all entrants in the categories where manipulation was not allowed would be asked to supply the RAW images to prove that no manipulation had taken place.

It was agreed that the salon chosen for audit would not be announced until after the closing date of that salon. The 2022 Swartland Salon was chosen and the relevant categories were: Nature – Birds Only and Nature – No Birds.

A total of 1232 images were requested from 209 photographers and it was found that the vast majority had not broken any rules – this is a big relief.

Of the 1232 images requested 1180 were received (95.8%) and only 21 (1.8%) were found to have broken the rules. There were various reasons for the non-submission of 4.2% of the images. These ranged from 3 downright refusals to sending, through crashed hard drives, illness and away on holiday.

3. Consequences

While the number of actual transgressors is, fortunately, few it is a problem that the Board needs to address and the follow-up action will be as follows:

All transgressors will receive a warning letter from Corine Ross, advising that their images have been found to break the rules. This letter will include details of the relevant images and transgressions.

They will be advised that if they persist in breaking the rules the following sanctions will be imposed:

2nd time offender – i.e. any offence after the warning letter has been sent.

All salon acceptance points for the current year for that image (images) will be lost.

3rd time offender

All salon acceptance points for all their entries in the non-manipulated categories for the current year will be lost.

No application may be made for Honours during that year. Any panels already in the process will automatically be disqualified and all credits will be lost. This will be regardless of whether the panel submitted is in a non-manipulation category or not.

No entries may be submitted for any PSSA team entry such as for a FIAP Biennial or the 4 Nations Competition.

The member may not judge, chair or organise any Salon.

All entrants who did not submit their images for checking will also receive a warning letter but the

wording will be slightly different and this will not be the initial warning letter as mentioned above. They will be advised of the consequences and also be advised that if they do not submit their raw images in the future they will be added to the list of transgressors.

The list of transgressors will be sent to all Salon Directors.

Members will have the right to appeal.

4. Rules

It is possible that members are breaking the rules by mistake – in the case for instance of renaming an image or entering it again when it has already received an acceptance – or through a lack of understanding of what can and cannot be done. It is for this reason that the warning letter is sent with no sanctions being imposed.

It must also be remembered that the rules regarding renaming of images and entering again in the same salon are not only for the non-manipulation categories.

Please be sure to read all the rules in the salon brochures and if in doubt please ask.

Further info can be found [at this link](#) on our website.

JILL SNEESBY Hon MPSSA, FPSSA(Dux), MFIAP, FPSA
PRESIDENT

"The art of photography is all about directing the attention of the viewer."
- Steven Pinker