



# SNAPSHOT

Newsletter of the Hermanus Photographic Society  
August 2017

## View from the chair

### A new season of growing skills

The days may still be cold, but spring is in the air. And our club is getting ready for a new season of growth – especially in skills.

Having completed a course in camera functions during the first half of the year, we start off in September with the first part of what Mike Sander, our local guru, calls the huge, multifaceted subject of composition.

This will be continued in the new year, and should eventually move its focus to visualization, which should help you as photographer to plan your approach properly to achieve your intended outcome.

The course will be spread over a long period because Mike's approach is to enable the participants to develop their understanding and skills thoroughly through practical homework tasks.

With this course still running, a second course, in judging or evaluating images, will start in October. This will begin with some theory, followed by gradually exposing the participants to real-time evaluating and giving feedback at our monthly meetings.

These two long-term courses should help to fill some gaps left by the retirement of a number of senior club members. Some of them have still acted as lead judges, and will, hopefully, be available for future duty.



But we need to build a core of judging proficiency among the new and active members. It will increase the photographic insights of those doing the course, and will also benefit the rest of the club.

The purpose of having your images evaluated and scored is not only to gain points and gold awards to rise through the PSSA star levels. Perhaps more importantly, credible and constructive feedback from the judges can help you improve your photography and grow as a photographer.

And with better photography comes more enjoyment.

**Charles Naudé**

## Micro observation from Max

**By Max Leipold**

Thank you for making me feel so welcome at the last Club meeting. It was also good to catch up with Wicus Leeuwner (the lead judge), whom I've known for 20 years plus.

May I be permitted one observation please?

Both at that meeting and the meeting at which I took the lead position, I found a dearth of images which I shall refer to as micro images. Most were of the entire subject, e.g. a croc, a CD etc.

Micro images are not to be confused with macro images taken with a macro lens. By micro I mean using a long lens to capture just a small section of the whole rather than photographing the entire scene.

I find a lot of satisfaction in visually exploring what is before me and finally photographing just a small section of it. I find that this focuses the viewer's attention to the part of the whole that I want him to focus on.

I think that you might add value by promoting this style within the club.

I've attached just three examples of micro photography.



**Muffin Symmetry** – nothing more than a muffin baking dish, but taken in a way that provides some symmetry. It might not be everyone's cup of tea (excuse the pun) but it does demonstrate the principle of cropping through the lens until you get shapes that complement one another.



**Neptune's 4x4** – tracks made by a 4x4 on a soft pan and cropped in camera (not in post processing) in such a way as to portray Neptune's trident.

**Dentist Delight** – you have some excellent wildlife photographers and this is not intended for them; it is rather intended for members like the one who submitted a photo of a croc surrounded with reeds. If he or she concentrated on a small part of the croc instead of the whole reptile, thus avoiding reeds, it might have resulted in a more pleasing image.



Just some food for thought.

## Starry starry night

Two of our members, Thomas Hoffmeyer and David Wilson, were promoted from one-star to two-star photographer.

To achieve that, they needed a minimum of 20 points and 5 gold awards each from the monthly evaluation of images.

The climb uphill will now be a little steeper. To reach the next level, they will need 40 points and 10 golds each. And the award criteria will be tougher.

### Salon successes

Three of Treurnicht du Toit's images were accepted for exhibition at the PCA Exhibition Corsica, and another three at the AFO Salon in Pretoria.

One of Robert Johnson's images was accepted by the AFO Salon.

# Activities in September, October

**The September meeting** will be in the Dutch Reformed Church Hall, as usual, on Wednesday the 6<sup>th</sup> at 19:00. Members may enter up to three images of their choice for evaluation, and one image on the Set Subject for discussion. The best set-subject image will be decided by voting.

**Images for evaluation must be submitted by Wednesday 30 August because of the landscape workshop running from 1 to 3 September.**

**The Set Subject for September** will be "Games". With that in mind, Daniel Reddie organized an outing to a local sports day that took place on Saturday 29 July, where members had the opportunity to take action shots of various sports disciplines. But the set subject is not limited to a specific sports day. It is open for wide and creative interpretation.



*One of 2016's top 100 sports images, taken by Ezra Shaw of Getty, and published by "Business Insider"*

**The Set Subject for October** will be "Landscape". In preparation for that, René Dewar has organized a landscape workshop led by Paul Bruins, in Greyton from 1 to 3 September. But again, the set subject will not be limited to images from that workshop. It is open for wide and creative interpretation.



*"Misty sunrise in the Gobos River Gorge" by Paul Bruins*

# Forget about cramp, stiff finger

**By René Dewar**

Our Club outing in preparation for the September set subject of "Games" was to the Hermanus High School's sports day against Brackenfell High School.

We were fortunate enough to be able to photograph a variety of netball, hockey and rugby matches. Armed with the day's match timetable, we moved between the netball courts, Astro turf and rugby fields.

The sports were fast and exciting. One forgets how fearless the young are. You need to concentrate, and keep your eye on the ball, so as not to miss the action shots.

I soon discovered that I needed to press the shutter button slightly ahead of the action I was hoping to capture. Once I made this discovery, I really got excited and forgot about my eye being glued to the viewfinder, the cramp in my shoulder and my stiff index finger on the shutter.

The day ended with an exciting under 18 rugby match, which Hermanus narrowly lost during the last few minutes.

The sports provided wonderful photographic opportunities, but we discovered that if you stood back and observed, there were just as many photographic opportunities among the spectators.

This certainly was an exciting, action-packed and eventful morning. Thanks to Daniel Reddie for organizing it.

## Committee vacancy

A new Committee member will be elected at the September meeting, to fill the vacancy left by the resignation of Luke Horsten, treasurer.

Nominations can be made at the meeting or by contacting Charles Naudé, chairman, before the meeting. The main qualification for the position is enthusiasm for photography in general, and for the club in particular.

Luke will hold the purse for the time being.

## Committee

Charles Naudé – Chairman

083 309 1857 ([cmnaude@gmail.com](mailto:cmnaude@gmail.com))

René Dewar – Outings, workshops

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Luke Horsten – Treasurer, membership

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Daniel Reddie – Marketing, communication

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

André van Zijl – Scoresheets, setup for meetings

083 305 5649 ([andremvz@gmail.com](mailto:andremvz@gmail.com))

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

Fluit-fluit, my storie is uit.