



# SNAPSHOT

Newsletter of the Hermanus Photographic Society  
December 2019

## We urgently need more inexperience

### 'Success problem' as active junior members promoted

We have a problem. We are running out of inexperience, mostly because of the promotion of active junior members to senior status.

The latest case was that of David Wilson, whose promotion from Three-star to Four-star level was announced at our last monthly meeting of the year, on Wednesday 4 December.

He followed in the footsteps of Diane Steenkamp, Cathy Bruce and Deon Steenkamp. All four of them serve on the Committee, and play an active role in our activities.

The effect of the shrinking number of active juniors (Three-star level and lower) can be seen in the table. It shows the dwindling number of junior members submitting images for evaluation at our monthly meetings over the past year.

<b>Members submitting images for evaluation 2019</b>			
<b>Month</b>	<b>Juniors</b>	<b>Seniors</b>	<b>Total</b>
February	4	9	13
March	9	9	18
April	8	7	15
May	5	7	12
June	5	8	13
July	5	8	13
August	4	10	14
September	2	9	11
October	3	12	15
November	3	9	12
December	0	10	10

At our December meeting there was not a single junior entry.

It has never happened during the last three years, and probably not for a number of years previously.

An immediate consequence of this is that we will not be able to enter an image for the Junior Club Competition organized by the Photographic Society of South Africa (PSSA) for this month or January. Both entries would have had to come from this month's meeting because we have no meeting in January.

Of course that is not the end of the world. And of course it is wonderful that members' hard work and growth as photographers are recognized by their being promoted to higher star levels.

And there have been similar cycles in the past. More inexperienced members join our club in the beginning of the year. They learn, they grow, and they rise through the ranks, replacing senior members who eventually retire.

But the cycle has never affected our junior activity quite as severely as during this year.

Perhaps we should regard it as a wake-up call, and think of ways to make our club and our photography more attractive to younger, less experienced potential members.

**Charles Naudé**

## Last three promotions of 2019

The promotion of three of our members was announced at our club meeting on Wednesday 4 December.

Hestie das Neves was promoted from Five-star to Magister level, Charles Naudé from Four-star to Five-star, and David Wilson from Three-star to Four-star.

For her promotion Hestie needed 200 club evaluation points, 50 Golds and 40 Salon points. Charles needed 120 evaluation points, 30 Golds and 20 Salon points; and David 60 evaluation points, 15 Golds and 2 Salon points.

The announcement of these promotions was the first since our club had decided at its November meeting that Salon points would be required for all promotions beyond Two-star level.

Previously, a member could for example rise from Five-star to Magister level without Salon points, but needed 400 club evaluation points and a quite formidable 120 Golds.

## Salon success, local and abroad

Last month's salon awards included a Certificate of Merit each for four of our members, and a total of 24 international acceptances for Treurnicht du Toit, while a total of another 40 images by five of our members were accepted for exhibition by national salons.

### International Camera Obscura Circuit

Treurnicht du Toit – 16 acceptances

### Cross Continental Circuit

Treurnicht du Toit – 8 acceptances



Merit: "Elegance" by Treurnicht du Toit

### Bloemfontein Salon

Treurnicht du Toit – Merit + 2 acceptances

Hestie das Neves – Merit + 4

Charles Naudé – 6

Elizma Fourie – 5



Merit: "Golden Doors" by Hestie das Neves

### AFO Salon

Elizma Fourie – Merit + 5 acceptances

Treurnicht du Toit – 3

Charles Naudé – 4

David Wilson – 1



Merit: "I Am Watching You" by Elizma Fourie



## Van Lichtenbijn Salon

Charles Naudé – Merit +3 acceptances

Treurnicht du Toit – 3

## PSSA Up and Coming

David Wilson – 2 acceptances



Merit: "Dance with Me" by Charles Naudé

## Seniors and Juniors two places up



Our club's November senior entry, "I am Watching You" by Elizma Fourie (left), got 36/45, and our junior entry, "Spaceship" by Joletta Frahm, 33/45.



Our club's December senior entry, "Life is Hard" by Elizma Fourie (left), and our January entry, "Art of Farming" by Charles Naudé.

Almost halfway through the Photographic Society of SA (PSSA) Club Competitions, we have improved our position by two places in the Western Cape in both sections.

In the Senior section of the competition (for Four-star members and above) we have moved up from fifth to joint third place – along with Creative Club, and behind Cape Town and Paarl.

In the Junior section (for Three-star and lower) we have moved from sixth to fourth, and are now behind Cape Town, Creative and Paarl. Alas, we will soon give up this position because we have no entry for December and January. (See article above).

Nationally, in the Senior section Cape Town is in joint third position, and Paarl joint ninth. In the Junior section Cape Town is joint fourth, and Creative joint sixth.

Almost half of the 100 odd clubs nationally affiliated to the PSSA participate regularly in the Senior and Junior sections, and in the Western Cape 9 and 8 of the 11 in the Senior and Junior sections respectively.

PSSA Senior Competition		
Club	Score	Place
Cape Town	180	1
Paarl	174	2
Hermanus	167	3
Creative	167	3
Swartland	163	5
Worcester	160	6
Helderberg	137	7
Fish Hoek	132	8
Tafelberg	125	9

## Friday Walk in the dark a success

Our club made a modest but appreciated contribution to the fundraising of the December First Friday Art Walk with its Night of 1 000 Drawings.

We raised R1 400 by selling 14 A5 size prints, while the total return of the evening was more than R106 000, all for local charities.

Despite the Eskom power cut, more than 250 visitors were counted at our print exhibition at Foto First.

Our fundraising was better than anticipated, and we were greatly thanked by the Art Walk Committee, recognising that we are not a gallery.



*Preparing for our First Friday's Art Walk print exhibition and fundraising before the Eskom power cut covered our town in darkness.*

## Forthcoming events

**Our February meeting**, the first of the new year, will be in the Hermanus Dutch Reformed Church Hall on Wednesday the 5<sup>th</sup> at 19:00. It will include our **annual general meeting**, and the **election of a Committee** for 2020. Members may enter up to three images of their choice, and one image on the Set Subject, "Poetry in Motion" / "Poëtiese Beweging", all for evaluation. All submissions must be via Photovault, 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.

**The next First Friday Art Walks** will be on 3 January and 7 February. Our club print exhibition is at FotoFirst.

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

Miroc International Salon 9 January

Tafelberg Digital Salon 18 January

Madiba Bay Digital and Prints Salon 25 January

PECC International Audio-visual Festival 6 February

PSSA International Salon 15 February

Alberton Digital Salon 15 February

Western Cape Photo Forum Digital Salon 29 February

## Committee

Elizma Fourie – President, website

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Diane Steenkamp – Vice President, secretary, audio-visual

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Cathy Bruce-Wright – Finance, membership

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

René Dewar – Outings, workshops

082 225 5789 ([rdewar@telkomsa.net](mailto:rdewar@telkomsa.net))

Daniel Reddie – Marketing, equipment, audio-visual

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Deon Steenkamp – Promotion points sheet, technology, audio-visual

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David Wilson – Exhibitions, media

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

Kobus Botes – Photovault, equipment set-up, points sheet

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.