



SNAPSHOT

Newsletter of the Hermanus Photographic Society
February 2022

Six senior members advance together

Drastic revamp of rules and systems delivers first fruits

Six of our senior members were promoted to a higher level as a result of our vastly improved advancement system.

The promotions were announced by our club president, David Wilson, at our first monthly meeting of the new year on Wednesday 2 February.

Two of the six, Phil Sturgess and Charles Naudé, advanced from 5-Star to Master Bronze, and four, Elizma Fourie, Carina de Klerk, Luke Horsten and Daniel Reddie, from 4-Star to 5-Star.

The promotion of so many senior members together was the result of getting the new, greatly improved club advancement system on stream, and applying it with retrospective effect to the past two years.

This effectively removed the frustrating bottleneck in the advancement of our senior members.

The bottleneck manifested in the long time it would take for senior members to advance to the next level.



Carina de Klerk (5-Star) and Phil Sturgess (Master Bronze)



Elizma Fourie (5-Star)

The reason for that was the rapid increases in the requirements for points and Gold awards that the old system demanded from photographers attempting to progress through the more senior levels.

Our new system, based on the recently published Club Advancement Guidelines of the

Photographic Society of South Africa (PSSA), is much more balanced. It provides for more challenging requirements on junior level, and a far less rapid increase in requirements at higher levels.

The rewriting of our advancement system, together with the Club Rules and Regulations, turned out to be a “massive undertaking”, according to David.

Getting the new system on stream, and applying it with retrospective effect to the past two years, became another massive undertaking.

The entire process, in which Phil, Carina and Kobus Botes played mayor roles, took several months.

In addition to creating a more fair advancement process, and speeding it up for senior photographers, the new system was also designed to encourage our members to take part in national salons.

The rewritten Rules and Regulations, containing the new advancement system, can be found on our greatly improved website, <https://hermanusphoto.co.za/>, redone by Carina.



Luke Horsten (5-Star)



Daniel Reddie (5-Star)



Charles Naudé (Master Bronze)

Back to church - hopefully

Our club started the new calendar year with a live meeting in the Dutch Reformed Church Hall on Wednesday 2 February. The monthly meeting was combined with our annual general meeting. Our club president, David Wilson, expressed the hope that a reduced Covid threat would let us have a more normal year with more regular meetings in our traditional venue.

Something happened on the way to 2022



Left: "Waiting" by Gary Scholtz, our December entry for the Senior competition, which was given a score of 35/45. **Above:** "The Stormer" by Elizma Fourie, our January entry (33/45).

Something strange happened to the National Monthly Club Competitions during the summer holiday.

In the senior competition our club has jumped from 4th to 1st place in the Western Cape, and from 14th to 4th nationally.

And in the junior competition we moved even more dramatically from 6th to 2nd in the region, and from 23rd to 7th countrywide.

The reasons for the shake-ups are that our scores were good, very little separated us from the clubs ahead of us, and some clubs missed the opportunity to enter images for both December and January, allowing those who did to overtake them.

Other clubs in the Western Cape are also doing well. Two of them, Cape Town and Creative, are also in the top 10 nationally in both competitions.

Seniors after seven months			
Club	Score	W Cape	National
Hermanus	245	1	4
Cape Town	243	2	6
Creative	234	3	9
Tygerberg	217	4	15
Tafelberg	216	5	17
Witzenberg	203	6	25
Paarl	201	7	28
Swartland	201	7	28
Helderberg	185	9	34
Fish Hoek	169	10	38

Juniors after seven months			
Club	Score	W Cape	National
Creative	244	1	3
Hermanus	224	2	7
Cape Town	222	3	8
Tafelberg	210	4	13
Swartland	206	5	16
Tygerberg	205	6	17
Paarl	203	7	19
Witzenberg	190	8	29
Fish Hoek	181	9	31
C Hofmeyr	179	10	33

And in the junior competition, four more clubs from our region are in the top 20 nationally. They are Tafelberg, Swartland, Tygerberg and Paarl. That makes it a total of seven in the junior top 20.

The senior competition is meant for each club's image of the month by a senior photographer (on 4-Star level or higher), and the junior competition for the image of the month by a junior photographer (3-Star or lower).

The two competitions are organized by the PSSA (Photographic Club of South Africa), together with a third competition for individual members of the PSSA. The competitions started in July 2021, and will end in June.

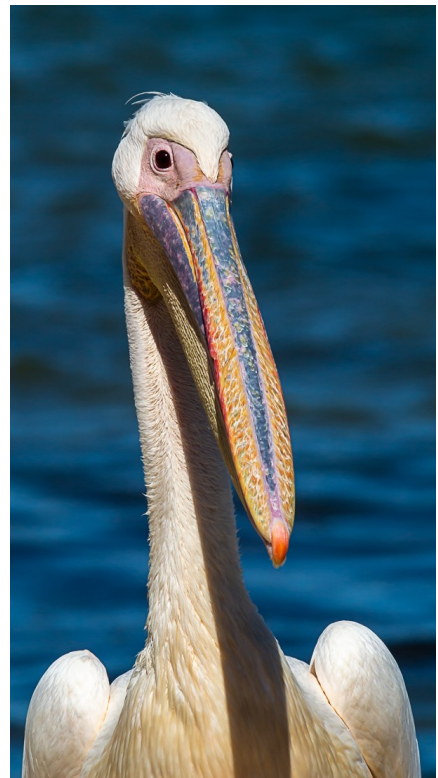


"Canola Winter Scene" by Peter Jaquire, our December entry for the Junior competition, which was given a score of 34/45.



"Pienk" by Peter Jaquire, our January entry for the Junior competition, which was given a score of 29/45.

Our February entries for the National Monthly Club Competitions are "Last Gasp for Kermit" by David Wilson (below left, Senior) and "I'm Too Sexy for this Pic" by Peter Jaquire (right, Junior).



Hermanus keeps on shining in salons

Four of our members are in the Western Cape top 10 based on national salon scores for the first half of the photographic year – from July 2021 to June 2022.

Western Cape Impala Trophy top scores July – December '21				
Entrant	Club	Points	W Cape	National
Phil Sturgess	Hermanus	80	1	21
Kim Stevens	Cape Town	74	2	25
Christo Giliomee	Paarl	68	3	36
Dante Parisi	Fish Hoek	63	4	40
Elizma Fourie	Hermanus	49	5	66
David Barnes	Tygerberg	45	6	74
Charles Naudé	Hermanus	41	7	79
Lynne Kruger-Haye	Tygerberg	39	8	86
Philip de Lange	Witzenberg	39	8	86
Carina De Klerk	Hermanus	38	10	89

And in international salons our club president, David Wilson, is in a league of his own. He was awarded 3 Bronze medals, 2 Chairman's choice medals, an honourable mention, a FIAP ribbon, a Star certificate, and 187 more acceptances in several salons during December and January.

Stricter control over manipulation

Stricter measures against the manipulation of images where it is not allowed have been announced by the PSSA (Photographic Society of South Africa).

The measures are targeted at images entered for salon categories such as Nature, Wildlife and Photojournalism, and are effective from 1 January.

"The salon director of all PSSA salons and PSA international salons will (now) always request the original RAW file(s) with the EXIF data intact from those entrants who have been initially selected for the medals and certificates of merit in the 'no manipulating' categories," the PSSA said.

"If the salon director confirms that the image has not been manipulated, then the award will stand for those entrants. If the salon director confirms that an image has been manipulated, then the image will be disqualified, and a note recorded for the PSSA Salon Administrator of the disqualification reason. Persistent transgressors will be notified of their transgressions as well as possible embargoes imposed on them.

"Furthermore, the Guidelines for Nature and Wildlife are now going to be very strictly enforced, so members are encouraged to read those new guidelines on the PSSA website," according to the announcement.

It was a merry Christmas party at the sports club



Our club held its Christmas party at the Hermanus Sports Club restaurant on Friday 10 December. It was clear that the 26 attendees had a great time. It was generally agreed that the food was excellent and the venue extremely well run.

Forthcoming events

Our March monthly meeting will be in the Hermanus Dutch Reformed Church Hall (Covid permitting) on Wednesday the 2nd at 19:00. Members may enter up to three images of their choice, and one on the Set Subject, "Moods" / "Gemoedstemmings", all for evaluation.

All submissions must be via Photo Vault Online, and all scores will count for promotion. Members are encouraged to read up on the set subject to prepare themselves.

The set subjects for the following six months are

April – Abandoned structures / Verlate strukture

May – H is for ??? / H staan vir ???

June – Photographing light / Fotografeer lig

July – The number 3 / Die syfer 3

August – Sport action / Sport-aksie

September – On the theme of / Op die tema van J Alfred Prufrock (TS Elliot)

The FynArts festival will be held early in June and we will participate, as usual. But this year will be special because it is our club's 25th anniversary, and FynArts' 10th anniversary.

The First Friday Art Walk from 17:00 to 20:00 has been resumed under Covid protocols. Our club print exhibition which forms part of this, is at Hermanus FotoFirst.

Art in the Park at the Hermanus Country Market on the first Sunday of every month has been resumed under Covid rules.

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

Cape Town national PDI and print 19 February

Rustenburg national 5 March

Eden national 19 March

PSSA international 30 April

Committee

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

Newsletter

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Fluit-fluit, my storie is uit.