

The Bellows

Official newsletter of the Tygerberg Photographic Society



Empty seats by Francois du Bois

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Proud member of the
**Photographic
Society of South Africa**

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Rob's Ramblings

Hi everyone,

We had yet another fabulous competition evening, with the Set Subject being Patterns and Shapes. Members produced some delightful ideas and beautiful photos.

One thing that came out of the evening was that our judge had a thing about borders on images - and rightly so in my opinion. As a matter of interest, I make the adding of a border part of my standard image processing workflow. Once I have finished editing, I save the workings as a TIF file, then flatten the layers, resize the image and change it to 8-bit, and then add the border and save the JPG file. My border seldom changes, and as I often have black as a background, I try to make the border as inconspicuous as possible, just enough to show where the photo starts and ends. My standard settings for the border are:

- 1 pixel
- White
- 50% opacity

These final settings changes are all recorded as actions in Photoshop, so two clicks after I have saved the TIF file, the image is ready for submission. If anyone here is new to Photoshop and would like help on this, please send me an email and I will help. Actions are one of the great time-savers in PS.

I'm very excited for my long-standing colleague, Frans du Bois, who after the Golds he received at the May competition, deservedly has reached Master status! What a fantastic achievement. Frans has been a loyal and supportive member since 2013. Keep those beauties coming, Frans - especially more like that regal lioness!

Further on in The Bellows is an article of some changes to our House Rules. They are important, so please make sure you have a read through them.

The newsletter ends off this month with some more images from members that have done extra well in salons.

As normal - my thanks to all those who have contributed to the content this month - it's been a great help, and is appreciated.

To close, if there are any changes that you think would improve this communication to members, please email me at robminterza@gmail.com.

Till next month,
Rob.

Chairman Chatter

Hi there Tygertogs,

One can feel and see we are moving into a different season, as the urge to lie in in the morning is great, with everything still dark outside.

As autumn sets in, this is a great time to capture those changing colours, and finding different perspectives from which to shoot.

We gained new member, Paul Wagstaff, who joined us at both our L&S and club competition evenings, so our membership numbers have increased by 1 to 43.

As mentioned last month, PSSA has approved our 9th digital salon, with a closing date of 12th October 2024. Please visit the [PSSA website](#) and download the brochure.

This year's Celebration of Photography, which replaces the Interclub competition, will be hosted by Paarl Photographic Club, with the opening event on Saturday the 9th November 2024.

For our L&S on Tuesday 18 June 2024, Christo Gilliomee will do a short presentation on our July set subject, Nature/Wildlife, at our venue in Panorama. Our June set subject is on Portraits, with Lynne Kruger-Haye judging the images. More info on these two topics follows further on in the newsletter.

With the changing weather, it is becoming difficult to find a suitable venue for our outing, but we will persevere and when the opportunity arises, you will be informed.

Our May meeting at the NG Kerk in Panorama was attended by 12 members with 12 joining us via Zoom, of which 2 were visitors, introduced by Marleen. I have been reliably informed that they may join TPS as well.

Congratulations to our May Club Competition winners, all winning photographs and details can be found on this in the following pages.

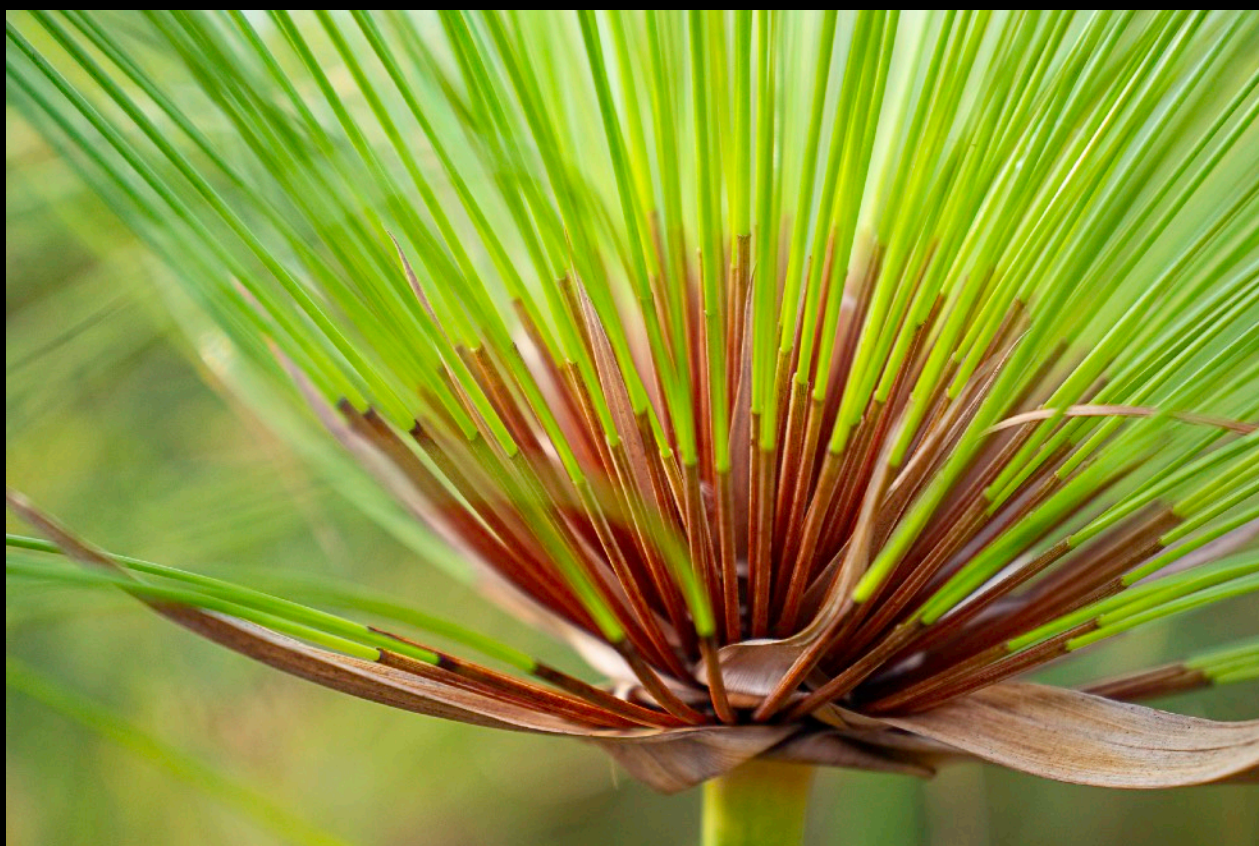
A huge vote of thanks to our sponsor - ORMS.

Until next time, cheers and keep on snapping.
Michael.

May 2024 Competition Winners



Set subject (Patterns and shapes) WINNER:
Empty seats by Francois du Bois



Set subject RUNNER UP:
Patterns in nature by Marius Bothma

May 2024 Competition Winners (cont.)



Open WINNER and JUDGE'S CHOICE SENIOR
Lady fisherman by Desmond Labuschagne



Open RUNNER UP:
In the early morning light by Francois du Bois

May 2024 Competition Winners (cont.)



JUDGE'S CHOICE JUNIOR:
A drop in the lake by Louis Jones

Well done everyone!



General TPS News and Information

May Competition:

Our trend continues - there was a larger number of entries in the Set Subject category, compared to in the Open category.

- 42 images were entered in the Set Subject category. The winning score was 30! with the average score being 23.9 and 20 being the most common score. A full list of the Set Subject scores can be found by clicking [here](#).
- 31 images were entered in the Open category. The winning score was 29, with the average score being 23.6, and 24 being the most common score. A full list of the Open scores can be found by clicking [here](#)

Member Advancements:



Francois du Bois from 5-star to Master



Changes to our House Rules

At the May competition, we had an unfortunate incident where one of John Read's images was initially disqualified as being too similar to an image submitted previously. The original image submitted the previous month was correctly disqualified as John had included his logo on the image.

John appealed the second disqualification, and the committee found that they had been incorrectly following the PSSA salon guidelines, which state that "images that are too similar may not be accepted in competitions". However, as this rule was not specifically stated in our House Rules, John was actually entitled to submit the second image. The disqualification was therefore reversed, and John was accordingly awarded the score decided by the judge (25) and awarded Gold status for the image. The committee apologises to John for the misunderstanding and inconvenience. These are the two images in question:



General TPS News and Information (Cont.)

Moving forward, as it is part of the standard rules and guidelines for PSSA salons, and to maintain consistency with other affiliated clubs, we have decided to amend our House Rules to incorporate the same guidelines as per the PSSA website. The following amendments have been made to section 3.2 of the rules and are effective immediately:

- *3.2. ENTRIES: The following evaluation criteria only applies to images submitted to our monthly competitions. Once the image has been entered and judged, you are free to manipulate the image according to the judge's and other members' critique, and submit the manipulated image at another club's competition or salons. Digital and print entries for each month's competition shall be uploaded in the prescribed fashion and time onto an Internet website recommended and approved by the committee.*
- *Images shall be correctly downsized. (see 3.6)*
- *Naming of Images: Images submitted need to be notably different from previous submissions. Each image must have a unique name, i.e. the name of the image may not be changed. What this means is that even if you convert the image from colour to mono, or from digital to print, it must always have the same title. You can't add anything to that title to indicate that it is version 2, or BW or print etc. For example, an image, entered in month 1 of a competition, which is then converted to mono or print, must retain its original title and may not be re-entered into future competitions.*
- *Same or similar images: Similar implies that it is almost the same time, or almost the same place, or almost the same situation. Just another frame in an action series, or a different crop is not necessarily sufficiently different to make it a different image – by being almost the same it is a similar shot. This is true in any genre, be it portrait, landscape, creative, nature etc.*

As an example, any image which is sufficiently similar to another, such as the two images below, may be ruled ineligible as being effectively the same image:



Our thanks to Jill Sneesby, who is the PSSA's Director - Honours, Image and International Liaison, for allowing us to use her wording and images.

General TPS News and Information (Cont.)

Looking back at all the images that were submitted for club competitions over past months, it has been noted that there are a number of images that would be disqualified under the amended rules. Obviously nothing will be done about those images now.

Ed's note:

*Yours truly has also been a culprit! And I should have known better, but quite honestly, I had forgotten about the first image when I posted the second! The two images were submitted, first one in a Set Subject Mono category in September last year, the second in the Open category in January this year. I can only blame my age and failing memory for the oversight, but nevertheless, if it happened again, the second image would be disqualified. These are the two versions of my image:
So I've given myself a stern talking-to and it shouldn't happen again!*



Learn and Share

As Michael mentioned in his Chatter, Christo Gilliomee will present to us on Tuesday, 18 June on the Set Subject for July - Nature/Wildlife. I have tried to find a photo of him for the newsletter, but haven't been able to (Marleen - over to you!) However, Christo has a truly beautiful website, which you can view by clicking [here](#). It's certainly worth a look and you will see he's incredibly qualified to talk to us on the subject. It should be a fascinating presentation! Please note this will be a live presentation in Panorama.

The natural world is the greatest source of excitement; the greatest source of visual beauty; it is the greatest source of so much in life that makes life worth living." –

David Attenborough

General TPS News and Information (cont.)

May competition evening

Marleen la Grange very kindly took some photos on the night, and sent them to me for publication in The Bellows.

Here are two from the selection she sent



Firstly we have our Chairman, Michael West, and Committee Member and latest Master, Francois du Bois.

And then we have our Committee Member, controller, computer and Photoshop wizard, and pilot for every one of our Zoom flights, David Barnes.



Thank you Marleen for the images!

This month's set subject

PORTRAITS

Definition

A likeness, personality and mood of a living subject, human or animal, where that subject is dominant in the image. Portraiture is not restricted to head and shoulders and may include just a part of the face, a back view or even a full length study.

MANIPULATION IS ALLOWED

Closing date for Photovault: Friday 21 June
Competition night: Wednesday 26 June

Judge

The judge for our June competition is Lynne Kruger-Haye. Lynne is the founder and Chairman of Ignite Photographic Club ([click here for website](#)). She is well-known to our longer-serving members, having been Chairman of TPS for a number of years. Lynne holds APSSA and DPSSA distinctions.

She has her own beautiful website, and it can be viewed by clicking [here](#).

She was also kind enough to share some of her vast knowledge relating to portraiture with members at our Learn and Share meeting in April.



For me, a portrait is something from which you feel the person, their inner quality, what it is that makes them who they are.

Herb Ritts

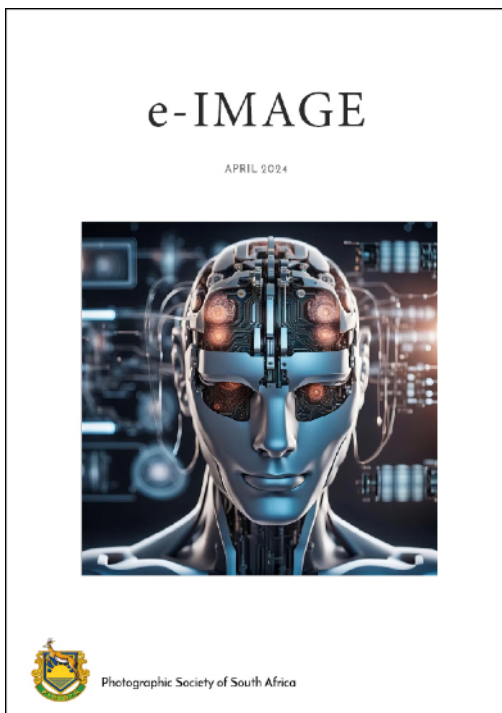
Other News and Information

From the Photographic Society of South Africa

- **70th Anniversary**

PSSA celebrates this year its 70th Anniversary and the Marketing Committee is working hard to promote and celebrate this event for our Organisation in many different ways throughout all our Regions. Please keep checking our [website](#) for continual announcements and challenges that will be taking place for us all as members to benefit from.

- **PSSA's latest e-Magazine**



We hope you all enjoyed the latest e-Image. It certainly is filled with lots of interesting information as well as seeing all the different activities that our clubs in all the Regions participate in.

Definitely a Magazine to be read more than once. Huge thanks must go to Jill for putting this together. It is still available to members and non-PSSA members to click on and download from our website [here](#).

- **Welcome to all our new members**

A warm welcome to all our new members. It is great to see our membership expanding. Passion for our hobby of photography creates for us all excitement on a photographic journey capturing moments, telling stories, and exploring the beauty of South Africa thru the lens.

- **Four Nations Inter-society Challenge**

We are once again calling for entries for the Four Nations Inter-Society Challenge where we compete as a PSSA team against the Australian Photographic Society, the Canadian Association for Photographic Art and the New Zealand Photographic Society. We need your very best images in the four categories – OPEN, NATURE, MONO, OUR COUNTRY. Entry is free and is via Photovaultonline – the closing date is 30th June. [Click here for more information.](#)

Special images

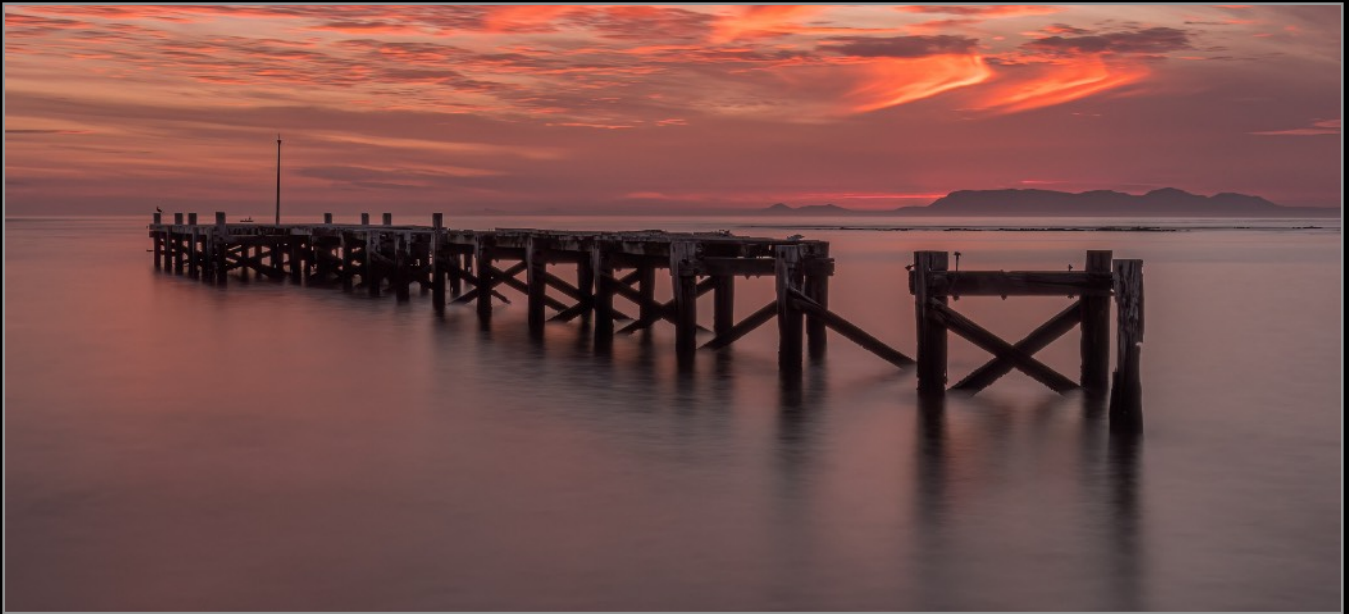


Edenvale 7th National Digital Salon
CERTIFICATE OF MERIT
An angel among us by David Barnes



Edenvale 7th National Digital Salon
CERTIFICATE OF MERIT
Sea holly by Rob Minter

Special images (cont.)



7th PSSA International Salon of Photography 2024
CERTIFICATE OF MERIT
Unexpected sunset by Pieter Swart



Zoomin Circuit 2024
HONOURABLE MENTION
Unlucky fish by Pieter Swart