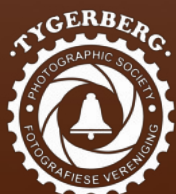


The Bellows



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Proud member of the

**Photographic
Society of South Africa**

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COVER IMAGE by Brian Moffatt entitled "Anticipation"

A special thank you to our sponsor, Orms, for their continued support. Their Bellville branch is located at 27 Willie Van Schoor Dr, Bo Oakdale, telephone 021 910 1380.

ORMS
EVERYTHING PHOTOGRAPHIC

Rob's Ramblings

Hi everyone,

So we had another month where our judge for Competition night was knowledgeable, gave good advice where necessary, and didn't waffle on. Thank you Andrew!

At the end of the evening, he made the following useful comments:

Generally speaking, the quality of the images presented was good. Areas to look out for:

- A number of images could be vastly improved by working on the lighting. He suggested making use of the image-bracketing procedure to enhance the dynamic range of images, and make them more like the eye would see the scene. As he mentioned, no matter how good your camera equipment is, it just does not see as much as the human eye, and images need tweaking afterwards to produce the image that you saw with your eyes.
- Many images look "flat", i.e. there is not enough contrast between the highlights and shadows areas. In addition to bracketing, he specifically mentioned using dodging and burning to help achieve that goal. This is not the first judge to have made that comment about our photos, so we should take careful note of it.
- He also mentioned making sure that all distracting items, e.g. dust spots, be identified and removed before submitting images. This too has been mentioned by previous judges.
- His final comment really hit home, though. He said the world is a wonderful place full of awe and interest and curiosity, and part of our job as photographers is to capture those stories to share with the world, rather than just recording a scene. So let's do that - and try to get our images to tell interesting and worthwhile stories!

Very relevant to the last point above, John Read kindly posted a truly fabulous link on our WhatsApp page. If you haven't watched it yet, do yourself a favour and make the time for it! Click [here](#) to watch the video. BTW, the rest of the stuff on that channel is not too shabby either!

Till next time,
Rob.

Light glorifies everything. It transforms and ennobles the most commonplace and ordinary subjects. The object is nothing, the light is everything.

Leonard Missone

Light is beautiful and if you expose for it, it will look awesome.

Daniel Aguilar

Light makes photography. Embrace light. Admire it. Love it. But above all, know light. Know it for all you are worth, and you will know the key to Photography.

George Eastman

Chairman Chatter

Hi there Tygertogs

Thank you to those of you who have renewed their membership fees, so far 31 have done so. Just a few more to go, although I am expecting some togs who did not participate in the last few years to possibly not renew this year.

John and Elaine have planned ahead for our outings and issued a list of each outing per quarter, with the next one coming up in April, a street walkabout in Stellenbosch.

Our outing in February was to Strand, and was reasonably well attended, with some great photos being taken. Some of these can be viewed later in the newsletter.

February club competition was well attended with 10 members joining in person plus 2 guests, and 9 members joining us via Zoom, including our judge, Andrew Pike. Overall we had 87 images, with 55 in set subject and 32 in open category. 2 images received DQ as they did not meet the date requirements for the set subject.

A reminder to ensure your images have the EXIF data stored when you save the files for submission, and that you comply with the permissible dates for the set subject. We are checking these dates to ensure fairness to all set subject photographers.

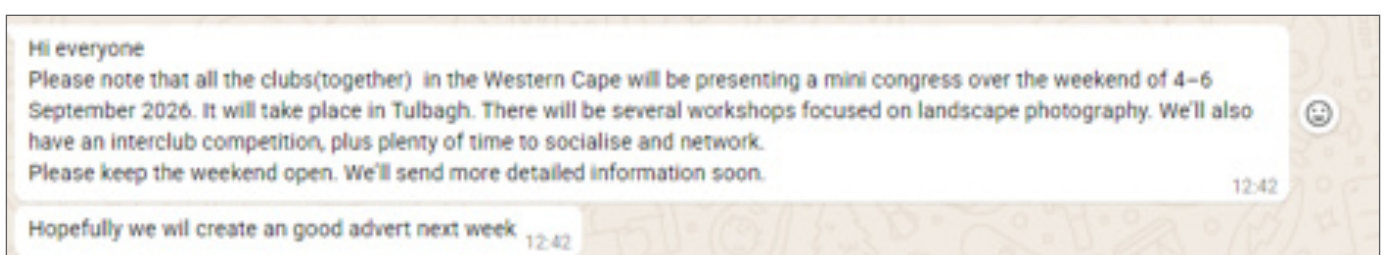
For all images entered into the Set Subject category, the images must comply with the genre definitions, especially the rules around manipulation. If you are unsure, please read up in our house rules (bullet 3.2) about what is permissible. With Open, there is no date criteria.

The WCPF is hosting a mini congress in Tulbagh, over the weekend of the 4th to 6th September 2026. The theme being "Landscapes", and the guest speaker is Kyle Goetch. Please see note from Quintus Heine below.

On another note, TPS will be hosting an exhibition the first weekend in July, which will include a competition for scholars from the Northern Suburbs. The idea is to promote TPS in the Northern Suburbs, and also to showcase scholars' achievements with their cell phone or camera photos. You will be invited to select an image(s) for display to showcase your achievements as photographers, and these will feature together with the images from the scholars. More about this will be shared once the finer details have been confirmed.

Congratulations to our February competition winners, all photographs and details can be found on the following pages.

Michael



February 2026 Competition Winners

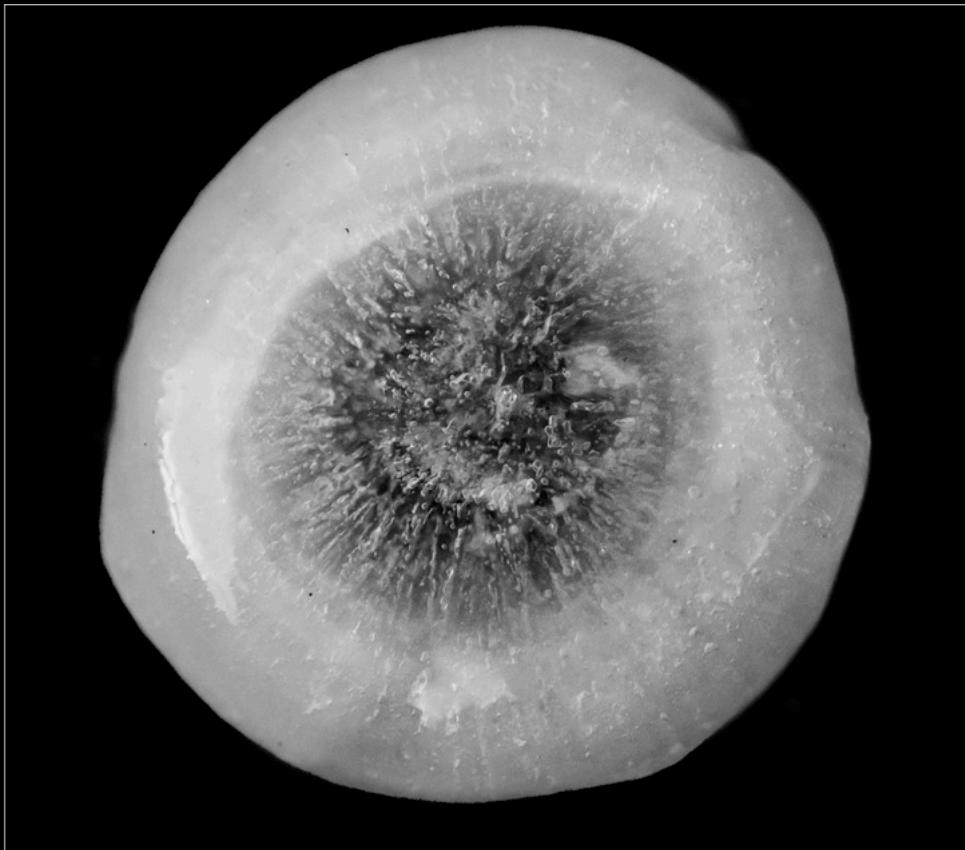
WINNER
SET SUBJECT SENIOR

Succulent
by
Marleen la Grange



WINNER
SET SUBJECT JUNIOR
and
JUDGE'S CHOICE JUNIOR

Hail eye
by
Charlotte van der Berg



February 2026 Competition Winners



WINNER OPEN SENIOR and JUDGE'S CHOICE SENIOR
Charging hippo bull *by Kobus Mouton*



WINNER OPEN JUNIOR
Penalty stroke to SA *by Michael West*

February 2026 Competition Winners



RUNNER UP SET SUBJECT SENIOR
Natural symmetry by *Bennie Vivier*



RUNNER UP SET SUBJECT JUNIOR
Daisy chain by *Tamlyn Goodwin*

February 2026 Competition Winners



RUNNER UP OPEN SENIOR

Three stages
by
Bennie Vivier



RUNNER UP OPEN JUNIOR
Refreshment by *Brian Moffatt*

General TPS news and information

February 2026 competition

Last month:

- **55** images were entered in the Set Subject category. 2 images were disqualified as they were not taken in the specified date range. Two members scored the highest possible score of a perfect 15 (Marleen la Grange and Bennie Vivier). The average score was 11.0, and the most common score awarded was 10.

A full list of the Set Subject scores can be found on our website by clicking [here](#).

- **32** images were entered in the Open category. As in the case of the Set Subject, two members scored a perfect 15 (Bennie Vivier and Kobus Mouton). The average score was 11.9, and the most common score was 12.

A full list of the Open scores can be found on our website by clicking [here](#).

Certificate of Merit awarded images, not shown either on the cover or in the winning images section, can be found in the special images collection at the end of the newsletter.

Andrew Pike was our judge for the month. He was quick and consistent with his judging, and an analysis of his scoring showed a really good spread among the scores in both categories.

STAR ADVANCEMENTS

There were no star advancement during February.

Membership

Total membership remains unchanged at 50, although there was some movement. Daniel Rossouw resigned after 12 years of having been a member, and we were joined by Barbara Potgieter. Welcome Barbara - we wish you a wonderful, happy, inspirational and instructional stay with our club!

Ability is what you're capable of doing.
Motivation determines what you do.
Attitude determines how well you do it.

Lou Holtz

General TPS news and information (cont.)

Learn and Share

The learn and Share for February started off with the viewing of 2 Audio-visual presentations compiled by Johan Kloppers. Unfortunately the Zoom quality wasn't the greatest, but Michael offered to send the videos with full resolution to members who were interested in getting a copy.

After that a number of topics was discussed:

- Image reviews, which we did last year and were very informative, often leading to follow-up discussions.
- The request from the Committee for members to let them know what they would like discussed or taught at the L&S meetings.
- The mini conference to be held in Tulbagh in September, with a landscape photography focus.
- David Barnes mentioned the benefits of having one-on-one mentoring sessions with people who were knowledgeable about the subject you needed help with. Michael mentioned that a number of judges last year, e.g. Steff Hughes, have offered their services in this regard.
- YouTube instructional videos. David mentioned that it's impossible to remember every technique that we have used at some stage in the past, but that YouTube is a wonderful resource for refreshing one's memory. John mentioned that the ClipGrab application could be used to download any YouTube clips you wanted to keep. My favourite way of doing that is to go [here](#).

All in all a great evening, well attended.

Outings

Our outing for the first quarter this year took place on Sunday, 8 February. We had 10 people attend, plus one very active future photographer, and a beautiful playful Golden Retriever! We met at the Strand Pavilion at 09h00, and the event ended sometime later with the remaining togs enjoying a chat over coffee. Very windy as the morning progressed, but a most enjoyable and successful outing.

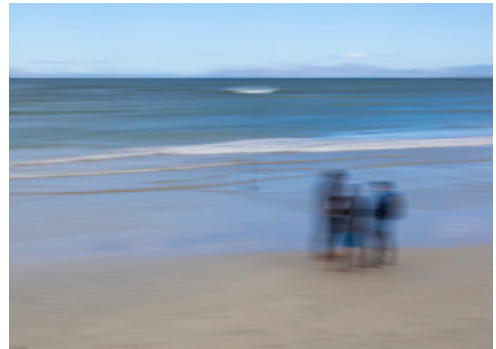
Thank you John and Elaine for organising everything.

A reminder that our next outing is in April, and will take the form of a walk around Stellenbosch. More details will follow later.

Some photos from the day follow on the next page.

General TPS news and information (cont.)

Photos from the Strand outing



February 2026 Set Subject

Shadows/Silhouettes

DEFINITIONS

A shadow is the contour created when an object or person blocks rays of light from reaching a surface. The shape of a shadow changes based on its relationship with the light source. The distance, angle and size of the source work together to determine the intensity, form and scale of the shadow.

Silhouette photography is a wonderful way to convey drama, emotion and mood in a picture. A silhouette is defined as a view of an object or a scene consisting of the outline and a featureless interior, with the silhouette object usually being black.

MANIPULATION IS ALLOWED

Closing date for Photovault: Friday 20 March 2026
Competition night: Wednesday 25 March 2026

Judge

The judge for the month is Bruna Mentrup. Bruna holds LPSSA honours, and is PSSA JAP accredited. She has more than 20 years experience in various photographic genres.

She has her own website, and you can view it [here](#).

Set subject Examples



Other news and information

From the Photographic Society of South Africa (PSSA)

All items below are taken from the latest PSSA Newsletter, edited by Bridgid Wickham.

PSSA Monthly Competition Winners - February 2026



SENIOR WINNER

Shirley Swingler from Amber Camera Club is our February winner! Shirley, congratulations on your winning image: **Quenching my thirst.**

JUNIOR WINNER

Tielman de Villiers from F-Stop Photographic Society is our February winner! Tielman, congratulations on your winning image: **Bribing partner.**



WEBSITE WINNER

Monique van Rooyen from Klerksdorp Fotografieklub is our February winner! Monique, congratulations on your winning image: **Bedtime story**

Other news and information (cont.)

2026 NATIONAL CONGRESS IN PE 28th September to 1st October 2026

Registration for this congress will be opening soon - [click here for more information](#)



Photo Credit:
Alison
Duncan

Honours News



HONOURS 2025

All successful honours recipients for 2025 will be receiving a printed copy of the 2025 Honours Image and these will, wherever possible, be distributed via your Regional Director during March. Additional copies may be ordered from jillsneesby@gmail.com at a cost of R250 per copy plus courier fees.

[An electronic version for download is available here on our website.](#)

HONOURS RESULTS 2026

These will be available later this week, watch out for the special Mailchimp that we will be sending out.

Other news and information (cont.)

From the Western Cape Photographic News (WCPF)

Click [here](#) for their Blog. Click [here](#) for the full article by Trudi du Toit, dd 1 March 2026.

WC clubs equal in Premier club race

Two Western Cape clubs are currently neck and neck in the race for the Premier Club Trophy, based on salon points gained in the Impala Trophy. After two-thirds of the competition year, members from both Cape Town Photographic Society (CTPS) and Tafelberg Fotografieklub (TAFklub) have earned a total of 562 points – placing them joint fourth in the club competition.

Good news is that both clubs are only 11 points behind Magalies Foto Fun club, currently in #3 position. But the frontrunner, AFO, is outperforming all with 1 037 points – which is 335 points ahead of Ermelo Fotoklub, currently in #2 position.

Top 10 clubs after Bethal salon

	After vdB	Gain since Vdb	Points Total	Points Dif
1 AFO	790	247	1037	
2 Ermelo Fotoklub	537	165	702	335
3 Magalies Foto Fun	470	103	573	129
4 CTPS	511	51	562	11
4 Tafelberg	464	98	562	11
6 Sandton	446	78	524	38
7 Brandpunt	375	97	472	52
8 Independent	409	56	465	7
9 Springs	371	81	452	13
10 NPC	343	66	409	43

Special images



Phantom of the garden *by John Read*

Magician
by
David Barnes



Special images (cont.)



Back from the dive by *Bennie Vivier*

Look at lots of exhibitions and books,
and don't get hung up
on cameras and technical things.
Photography is about images.

Fay Godwin