

The Bellows

Official newsletter of the Tygerberg Photographic Society



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Proud member of the

**Photographic
Society of South Africa**

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COVER IMAGE by Bennie Vivier entitled "White Elegance".

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,

A warm welcome to a slightly shortened edition of The Bellows this month. Our 10th National Salon has put huge increased pressure on a number of members' time this month, mine included. But it will all be worth it in the end! More about the Salon next month.

So let's start with a wake-up call - the fact that September started on Tuesday this week means that today is the first Friday of the month. *This means that from today you have two weeks before this month's competition entries need to be submitted to Photovault!* Plus the Set Subject (see page 14) this month is Street/Photojournalism/Sport - so carry your camera around with you wherever you go and, in the words of the great Bob Dylan - keep your eyes wide, the chance won't come again! Good luck.

Congratulations to André Stipp, who rejoined TPS last month, and is back with a bang, having three images in the winners/judge's choices section! Congrats André.

Congratulations are also in order to the young lady who won our Scholar Competition - Kiara Meredith. She bagged her first featured photo in The Bellows with the judge choosing her "Grace" photo as his choice of favourite Junior entry! Well done Kiara - may this be the first of many!

Till next month,
Rob.



Chairman Chatter

Hi there Tygertogs

And just like that, Spring is here. We are experiencing some nice warm days, but the rain returned on Thursday, but only for a day.

As you read this we have just closed our 10th Salon, reconciled all the payments, identified some DQ's, and have submitted the packs to the various judges for judging, which will take place between now and the 12th of September.

At our August club competition, we had 13 members attend in person, with 7 members online. Unfortunately, some gremlins crept in resulting in a delay with the judging. We are looking at ways to ensure the problem does not re-occur in the future.

Overall we had 87 images, with 46 in set subject and 41 in open category. Our judge for the night, Arnold Bester judged the images on Zoom.

A reminder to ensure your images have the EXIF data stored when you export and also make sure you are not entering an image that was entered before, or out of the permissible date range, as this will lead to an automatic DQ. And unfortunately, for the second month in a row, we had 1 image DQ on the night that had been entered before.

The WCPF mini congress in Tulbagh will be on this weekend. Holding thumbs that the entries we entered for the Interclub do well, as both the best club and the top 3 individual photographers will be recognised.

The PSSA congress is in Port Elizabeth at the end of September, where the PSSA Interclub winners will be announced.

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

Michael.

August 2026 Competition Winners



WINNER SET SUBJECT SENIOR
Sundowners by Johan van Wyk



WINNER SET SUBJECT JUNIOR
King fishing by Brian Moffatt

August 2026 Competition Winners



WINNER OPEN SENIOR
Dark pond by André Stipp



WINNER OPEN JUNIOR
Dune rider by Deseré Coetzer

August 2026 Competition Winners



RUNNER UP SET SUBJECT SENIOR

Perfect balance *by André Stipp*



RUNNER UP SET SUBJECT JUNIOR

Final approach *by Brian Moffatt*

August 2026 Competition Winners



RUNNER UP OPEN SENIOR

In need of water *by André Stipp*



RUNNER UP OPEN JUNIOR

The sound of music *by Alf Moffatt*

August 2026 Competition Winners



JUDGE'S CHOICE SENIOR
On approach *by Bennie Vivier*



JUDGE'S CHOICE JUNIOR
Grace *by Kiara Meredith*

August 2026 Competition Winners

Author comments on winning images

Bennie Vivier:

"On approach" (page 9). I took the image in natural light. The carpenter bee was flying close to a September bush with purple flowers. I used a 90mm macro lens and a fast shutter speed of 1/3200 sec to freeze the action. The aperture was set to f/13 to get the entire bee in focus. The only editing I did was noise reduction.

André Stipp:

"Dark pond" (page 5), "Perfect balance" (page 7), "In need of water" (page 8). All 3 photos are single shots. I saw and identified something worthwhile, imagined what I wanted and set upon using the most important building block of a photo – composition! A well taken photo need very little post processing. The mono was taken in Sossusvlei, Namibia; the bird in Kirstenbosch; and the flowers at Vergelegen. The bird is a more challenging take. You have to be very patient. At first they fly away when they see you. But they get used to your presence and soon return. A tripod is a must and light is very important. The most important setting is your shutter speed as this determines the amount of movement you'll get in the wings. It's trial and error. Once the shutter speed is determined, you can build the other settings (ISO, F stop, exposure compensation or EV) around it.

Alf Moffatt:

"The sound of music" (page 8). Macro lens 1/20th f7.1 on tripod. 2 small led lights placed in gramophone enclosure. I own some old gramophones and 78 RPM records. The challenge was to control reflections and high spots on all reflective surfaces. Photo taken with gramophone working and needle in the middle of the record to improve composition. Changed to monochrome to reflect the age and then dual-toned shadows with red tint and highlights with yellow. Tents closed to separate shadows and highlight colour temperature

August 2026 Competition Winners

Author comments on winning images

Brian Moffatt:

"King fishing" (page 5). 1/2000th f5.6 400mm ISO 1600

Making sure that the background behind the bird is acceptable is probably the most important decision before considering the camera settings. if the background causes distractions in any form the photo becomes unusable quickly and very difficult to get a separation between subject and background. The shutter speed should be more up to 1/8000th of a second to ensure sharp images , fortunately the bird was relatively still at this shutter speed.

"Final approach" (page 7). 1/500th f10 190mm ISO 200

The settings were for stationary birds being photographed at the time, and then saw the Heron coming in for a landing. Because it landed without flapping its wings, I managed to come away with a great image. The preference would be for these bird photos to have a minimum shutter speed of 1/2000th. The water was tending to distract from the bird in the photo. Changing to monochrome achieved a better separation of the bird and the water.

Kiara Meredith:

"Grace" (page 9). *This one was a bit of a "work with what you've got" moment. It was shot in really harsh midday light, surrounded by white apartment buildings, so everything was super bright and reflective. Instead of trying to fight that, I leaned into it. Converting it to black and white helped simplify the scene and bring the focus back to her expression and the shapes of the light and shadows.*

The grain was added on purpose, as it gives the image a softer, more nostalgic feel and takes the edge off the harsh light. It's not meant to be perfectly clean, but rather a little raw and real. Overall, it was about finding something calm and intimate in a setting that wasn't exactly ideal.

August 2026 Competition

- **46** images were entered in the Set Subject category. The average score was 11.4, and the most common score awarded was 12.

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

- **41** images were entered in the Open category. One image was disqualified as it had been used before. The average score was 11.8, and the most common score was 12.

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

Arnold Bester was our judge for the month. It was obvious that he had spent a great deal of time on the judging of our images. His commentary was very detailed on all the photos, with virtually every one receiving recommendations on how the image could be improved. A very informative and educational judging session - thank you Arnold!

No Images received COMs. However, 12 images received a score of 13, which was obviously the highest score on the night. Those that do not feature among the Winning Images can be found in the Special Images section at the end of the newsletter.

Star advancements

None this month.

Membership

Total membership remained unchanged at 55!

Outings

John Read organised an outing to the Zeiss Mocca Museum during the month, and from all reports it was thoroughly enjoyed. Thanks John!

General TPS news and information

PSSA Impala Awards

Impala Trophies are awarded annually to the fully paid-up member(s) of PSSA gaining the greatest number of points in each of these mediums: Projected Digital Images (PDI); Prints; and Audio Visual (AV).

Non-Affiliate members do not qualify to participate.

The year will run from 1 August to 30 June each year and the awards will be made at the annual PSSA national congress.

Impala Trophy points will be gained on national and international salons with PSSA patronage and judged within the borders of South Africa by South African judges.

Final Audited Impala log standings for the year ending June 2026

B	DETAILED BY REGION - BEST CLUBS IN REGION		No of Clubs in IT	TOTAL Awards	No of PDI	No of Prints	No of AVs	TOTAL %	TOTAL Pts	Pts - PDI	Pts - Prints	Pts - AV	TOTAL %
1	Western Cape		16	3 184	2 994	190	0	11.4%	3 326	3 120	206	0	11.4%
	Region	Western Cape Clubs	WC	TOTAL Awards	No of PDI	No of Prints	No of AVs	TOTAL % of WC	TOTAL Pts	Pts - PDI	Pts - Prints	Pts - AVs	TOTAL % of WC
	Rank												
	1	Tafelberg Fotografiekklub	Western Cape	1 268	1 239	29	0	39.8%	1 345	1 316	29	0	40.4%
	2	Cape Town Photographic Society	Western Cape	1 080	950	130	0	33.9%	1 115	973	142	0	33.5%
	3	Tygerberg Photographic Society	Western Cape	312	298	14	0	9.8%	318	304	14	0	9.6%
	4	Fish Hoek Photographic Society	Western Cape	203	203	0	0	6.4%	204	204	0	0	6.1%
	5	Hermanus Photographic Society	Western Cape	106	106	0	0	3.3%	118	118	0	0	3.5%
	6	Witzenberg Photographic Society	Western Cape	77	60	17	0	2.4%	82	61	21	0	2.5%
	7	Swartland Fotografiekklub	Western Cape	43	43	0	0	1.4%	44	44	0	0	1.3%
	8	Gansbaai Photography Club	Western Cape	36	36	0	0	1.1%	36	36	0	0	1.1%
	9	Creative Camera Club	Western Cape	31	31	0	0	1.0%	34	34	0	0	1.0%
	10	Worcester Fotografie Klub	Western Cape	28	28	0	0	0.9%	30	30	0	0	0.9%
	11	Paarl Photographic Club	Western Cape	0	0	0	0	0.0%	0	0	0	0	0.0%
	12	Ignite Photo Club	Western Cape	0	0	0	0	0.0%	0	0	0	0	0.0%
	13	Kleinmond Kiekiekklub	Western Cape	0	0	0	0	0.0%	0	0	0	0	0.0%
	14	Weskus Fotografie Klub	Western Cape	0	0	0	0	0.0%	0	0	0	0	0.0%
	15	Durbanville Fotografiekklub	Western Cape	0	0	0	0	0.0%	0	0	0	0	0.0%
	16	Helderberg Photographic Society	Western Cape	0	0	0	0	0.0%	0	0	0	0	0.0%
	17	Worcester Photo Club	Western Cape	0	0	0	0	0.0%	0	0	0	0	0.0%

Francois du Bois very kindly compiled the following summary of individual member contributions to the numbers reflected above. Thanks Frans!

Impala Log Standings				
Year ended 30 June 2026				
Final audited numbers				
TPS Club Member Achievements				
Points received				
Rank	Name	PDI	Print	Total
1	Francois du Bois	116		116
2	Pieter Swart	61		61
3	David Barnes	39		39
4	Johan van Wyk	5	14	19
5	Derrick Smit	15		15
6	Rob Minter	12		12
7	Bennie Vivier	10		10
8	Louis Botha	4		4
9	Michael West	3		3
10	Charlotte van der berg	2		2
11	Annelize van der Berg	1		1
12	Gustav Nel	1		1

STREET PHOTOGRAPHY / PHOTO JOURNALISM / SPORT

DEFINITIONS

Street photography records unposed scenes in public spaces. The primary subject is people and or symbols of people and/or symbols of people, at rest or in motion, alone or with others, going about their everyday activities. Close up pictures of people should include features that provide information about the environment.

Photojournalism are images with informative content reflecting the human presence in our world and emotional impact which usually include human interest, documentary, news or sport. The journalistic value of the image shall receive priority over the pictorial quality. In the interest of credibility, PJ images that misrepresent the truth and model or staged set-ups are not permitted.

Sport photography covers any aspect of a sporting event. Images must depict an active pastime or recreation involving physical exertion and/or skill that is governed by a set of rules or customs and often of a competitive nature. The level of sport can range from children playing a sport to the Olympic Games. Images in this section could include the spectators or judges, umpires or referee in a sporting event

MANIPULATION IS NOT ALLOWED

Closing date for Photovault Friday 18 September 2026

Competition night: Wednesday 23 September 2026

Judge

Our judge for September is Kittie du Plessis. She is the PSSA Regional Director for Central Gauteng.

Kittie is a member of the Camera Club of Johannesburg, and an experienced and respected judge, judging for the PSSA Senior and Junior Monthly Competitions, and as well as for the Monthly Website Winner.

Other news and information

From the Photographic Society of South Africa ([PSSA](#))

PSSA Monthly Competition Winners - August 2026

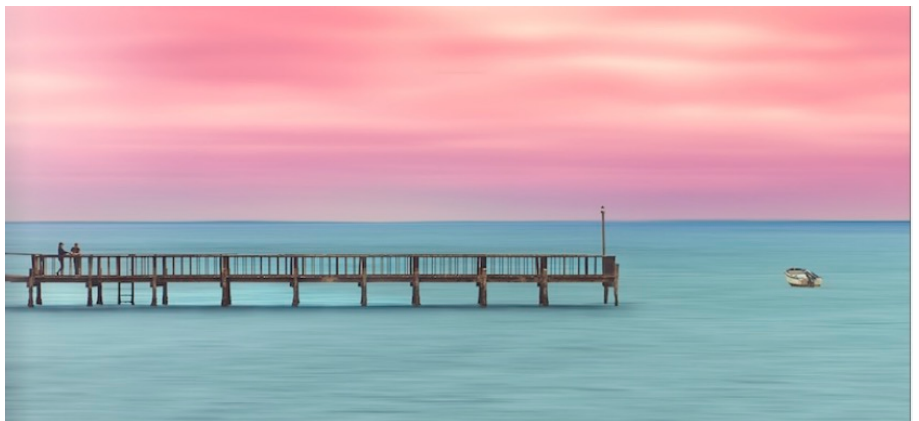
Club Competition Senior Winner

Tawny Eagle with prey by *Francois van der Watt*



Club Competition Junior Winner

Having a moment by *Maritza Vorster*



Website Competition Winner

Cisticola amongst the golden aloes by *Natasha Bird*



Other news and information

From the Photographic Society of South Africa (PSSA)

With thanks to Brigid Wickham's August PSSA Newsletter, which you can access in full [here](#).

Four Nations Competition Results



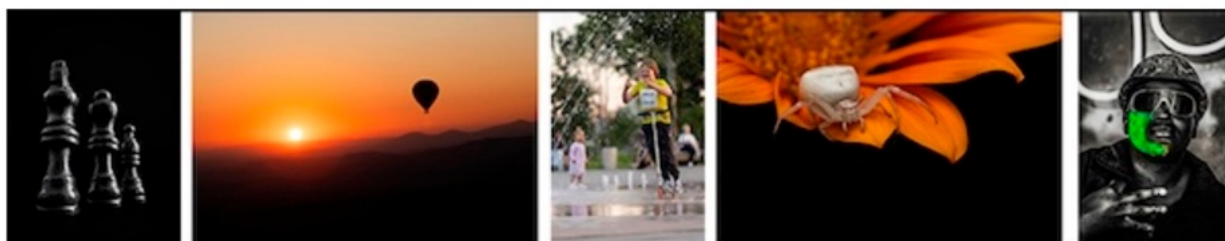
CONGRATULATIONS to TEAM PSSA!

We won the 2026 Four Nations Challenge 🇿🇦 🏆

Special congratulations to Alta Oosthuizen & Johan J Botha who won the Gold Awards in the Colour and Nature sections respectively.

Congratulations also to Belinda Ueckerman (Colour), Hanli Smit (Colour), Rodney Cory (Our Country), Phillip de Lange (Mono) and Peter Mare (Nature), who all received an Honourable Mention.

PSSA Youth Monthly Website Competition



Click on the collage above to take a look at the PSSA Youth winners this month. Scroll down on that page to get a full overview of each photograph.

Well done to all our Youth Members!

Other news and information

From the Western Cape Photographic News (WCPF)

Click [here](#) for the Blog from Nicol and Trudi du Toit. This is always an important blog to follow, and you can subscribe to receive new articles on a regular basis. A MUST for anyone interested in the photographic world in the Western Cape! Here are just three of the most recent posts to tempt you.

Here are the details and links to the three articles published during August:



PHOTOGRAPHY SALONS

Lift off for good Impala year for WC clubs

August 26, 2026 — 0 Comments



WESTERN CAPE PHOTOGRAPHERS

WC member performances make us proud!

August 8, 2026 — 2 Comments



PSSA HONOURS

Congratulations to WC Honours recipients!

August 8, 2026 — 0 Comments

Special images



COM 6TH BETHAL PDI SALON
Shipwreck at dusk *by Pieter Swart*



TPS CLUB AUGUST 2026 SET SUBJECT
Jo you gave me a fright *by Francois du Bois*

Special images



TPS CLUB AUGUST 2026 SET SUBJECT

Snarl by Johan van Wyk



TPS CLUB AUGUST 2026 SET SUBJECT

Skimming the mirror by Bennie Vivier

Special images



TPS CLUB AUGUST 2026 OPEN

With Mum at Lake Tanganyika
by
David Barnes



TPS CLUB AUGUST 2026 OPEN

Night reflections by *Desmond Labuschagne*

Special images



TPS CLUB AUGUST 2026 OPEN
I'll be watching you *by Rob Minter*