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PO Box 3234
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Competition Venue
Somerset West Library Hall
Cnr Oak/Libri Streets
Audas Estate
Somerset West

Treasurer
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Edition : 2019 February

COMMITTEE CHATTER



For some reason I was given the position of Vice Chairman. I thought that meant I would be in charge of all the vices, but I was told that my responsibilities would be to arrange the outings and the weekends away. That's fine with me, I am always happy to arrange a good party.

The greatest difficulty I know that I will face, is getting members to stick to their word, especially for the weekends away. So, let me appeal to you all now and ask you to sign up for the weekends and to stick to your commitment so that I have firm numbers for booking accommodation, meals etc.

The first weekend away will be in Arniston from 17th to 19th May. We will be staying at the Arniston Hotel. We will enjoy the very reasonable winter rates and plan to have one dinner at the hotel and one at a restaurant in the town. There are many great photographic opportunities in the area and some of our members know the good spots. We can visit Napier and Bredasdorp on the way there and Cape Agulhas (good lighthouse) on the way home. You are welcome to bring your spouse. There will be plenty for non-photographers to enjoy.

The second outing will be to the West Coast from 13th to 15th September. The accommodation still needs to be arranged, but I anticipate booking self-catering chalets for that weekend.

For the two weekends away and the other outings, the more the merrier applies, so please don't sit on the fence and then later have regrets when you hear how much fun everyone else had. I will always try to arrange for us to have a bite to eat together on the outings and I am sure there will be plenty of wine on the weekends away !! after all, I am the Vice Chairman!

~ Steve Trimby ~

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION

- Fees were payable 01 January 2019
- If this slipped your mind in the period of hectic holiday expenditure, please pay!
- Ask and you shall receive; seek and you shall find - bank details, etc ☺



TREASURER'S TALLY

Mark Smeddle

INTEREST GROUPS

Audio Visuals

Irmel Dunaïski
082 372 9824



At the moment we have very experienced members and a number of newcomers, so I am trying to cater for both. Creating AVs is very time consuming and sometimes it is a work in the making to get feedback. With this in mind, it differs how many AVs we can see at the AV meetings.

I use a collection of AVs collected over the years - from competitions, salons and the internet - with a very wide variety of subjects and techniques - to connect with and inspire the demonstration.

Meetings are lively with a good portion of humour, with participants providing valuable inputs in terms of techniques and resources. With four different software programmes in use, AVs are a challenge but worthwhile!

The 2019 programme will be advertised in the March 2019 newsletter but on the cards is another weekend workshop with Wessel and Marelize on the farm, plus Saturday get-togethers to support each other with practical work. Meeting again with the Kleinmond/Hermanus group is planned ~ Irmel ~

Visual Literacy

Chris Herselman
076 481 1359



Vis Lit group off with a bang!! On the last Saturday of January twelve HPS members packed Vivian Harpur's lounge again to talk and workshop about what makes good photography. Yes, not only *talking* but also *working* – the working of course in a relaxed and pleasant way.

This was to practice our skills at seeing images better, as well as analyzing them and commenting on them. To guide the process we used a handy framework called *A critical method: Four stages of criticism*, which Antenie Carstens adapted slightly from the book "The Visual Experience" by Hobbs & Salome.

HPS's Visual Literacy (Vis Lit) meetings take place every **last Saturday** of the month at different venues. We depend on members of the group to volunteer the use of their homes. A time window of **10:00 - 12:00** is set aside, but more often than not those who attend sometimes stay a bit longer.

The goal of Vis Lit is to improve our ability to "read", appreciate, evaluate and talk about images of all genres. We of course focus on photography, but the same principles and methods can also be applied to a wide range of art forms, from painting to sculpting. It follows that one's own photography should improve because of new insights and information.

I am happy to report that interest by HPS members in Vis Lit has increased over the past year! We envisage the program for 2019 to include largely (but not exclusively) discussing our own images, with occasional talks in between and hopefully a sprinkling of guest facilitators.

HPS members who would like to join this special interest group are welcome to contact me by email chris.herselman21@gmail.com or 076 481 1359 (preferably on WhatsApp) for more information. *Booking is essential.* ~ Chris ~

Friday Group

Steve Trimby
076 565 6250



The group recently went to see the devastation caused by the fire in Betty's Bay. Of course it was sad to see the damage and to think about the losses so many people had suffered and the terrible toll on nature. However, the burnt remains provided new material for our sensors, which are always hungry for something different to capture.

Over the next weeks we will try to concentrate on some of the set subjects of the year. Sonja is going to teach us how to take a good portrait and we will visit Cape Town for some street photography.

Watch out for updates on the Fridayers' WhatsApp group.

~ Steve T ~



In February 2018 our camera club had “Skyline” as the set subject. After taking a few unsuccessful images I decided to use some of my old photos instead. In 2011 I took a series of sundown images of Perth across the Swan River using my old 6 MPx Konica-Minolta Dynax D7D.

Soon thereafter I purchased a new 24 MPx Sony A77, and repeated the series. Although I have used the later 24 MPx images a number of times, I have never used the old 6 MPx set. So I decided to produce an image based on these.

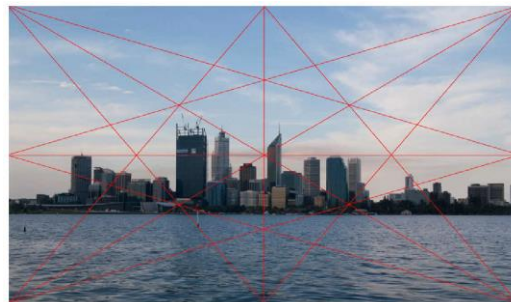
The vision was to produce an image of Perth around sunset, when there was some light in the sky and some evidence of reflections and electric lights in the windows. (This obviously coincides with the original vision back then).

For this type of work I set up my camera on a tripod, fix the composition, and using aperture priority, take multiple images of the same scene as the sun goes down. In this case I took 34 images over the space of just under one and a half hours. From the collection I selected the image below as the “master” or background copy. This is a straight conversion from the RAW file using Lightroom



I do most of my editing in Photoshop CS2 (ie: 2005 vintage software!). In Photoshop I nearly always add a layer containing an artist’s armature, which I use as an aid to composition. After doing this I decided to vertically compress the foreground river slightly and stretch the upper portion of the image vertically to suit. (Some other arrangements also look good, but this is what I decided on). The result including the artist’s armature is displayed below

The next step was to choose the image that I would use for the lights and windows. Here I selected one of the last images in the series as seen below. Once again this is a straight RAW conversion ex LR.



I worked on combining these two images in Photoshop. At one stage I decided that, even though the sky of the master copy was a good fit with the armature, I wanted something better. I tried out another image from the series for a while, but eventually decided to select an entirely new image from my collection of Sky Photos. I settled on the next image - *next page* - (another straight raw conversion using LR).

TECHNICAL TATTLE

The Making of
‘Perth Skyline’
by Peter
Dewar



I made a mask of the sky area of the master layer using Topaz Remask (a Photoshop Plugin). I had some masking detail problems with respect to the cranes and ladders up the side of the building. This had to be repaired later in the editing process. However, the mask was good enough to allow the new sky to be added and adjusted independently from the rest of the image.

The three layers (stretched background, lights/windows, and sky) were combined using a combination of blending modes and cloning brushes. A copy of the image above the waterline was flipped vertically, blurred slightly, and used to enhance the reflections in the water.

To improve the definition of the buildings a “pen & ink” version of the master layer was made using Akvis Sketch (a Photoshop plugin). This was incorporated using the soft-light blending mode and some judicious hand masking. I also used a partial copy of the master layer to rectify the details of the cranes/ladders employing the darken blending mode.

The overall colours of the image were adjusted. Here I used two slightly different conversions from Topaz Restyle (another Photoshop plugin) and blended them manually to get the final results. (I generally use my own presets, which I built for Topaz Restyle).

Getting near the end now. A final sharpening layer was prepared (I generally use the Michael Reichmann/Jeff Schewe “Progressive Sharpen” Photoshop action here) and masked to only work on the middle building areas. A vignette/luminosity adjustment layer was added. Finally the frame layer was added.

The final result is shown below. This has been exported from LR using normal screen sharpening. (I give images for projection a much higher level of output sharpening. This image is also really meant to have a black background as one gets from a projector).



I didn't keep track of the total time involved in editing, but it was most probably in the order of six hours spread over three days.

CONGRATS



If you are proud of your actual age yet how youthful you act, please let Fiona know when your birthday is (day and month) The year is not compulsory!! fiona@altair.co.za 082 557 8011

Other congratulatory news that you are aware of will be appreciated.



Congratulations to Alan who recently became engaged to Hazel. Sadly, we are going to lose Alan from the HPS, as he and Hazel are going to live in Australia in March. We wish them well with their plans and hope they will keep in touch and send us some photos from Australia.

2019 PROGRAMME

Competition and B&W Evenings commence @ 19h00
Venue : Somerset West Library Hall



Date	Evening	Set Subject
Wednesday 09 January	Competition	Landscapes <i>(as opposed to sea and cityscapes)</i>
Wednesday 06 February	BWI	Motion Blur
Wednesday 13 February	Competition	Motion Blur
Wednesday 06 March	BWI	Portrait
Wednesday 13 March	Competition	Portrait
Wednesday 03 April	BWI	Leading Lines
Wednesday 10 April	Competition	Leading Lines
Wednesday 01 May	No meeting	
Wednesday 08 May	Competition	Minimalistic
Wednesday 05 June	BWI	Selective Focus
Wednesday 12 June	Competition	Selective Focus
Wednesday 03 July	BWI	Wildlife
Wednesday 10 July	Competition	Wildlife
Wednesday 07 August	BWI	Street Photography
Wednesday 14 August	Competition	Street Photography
Wednesday 04 September	BWI	Backlit
Wednesday 11 September	Competition	Backlit
Wednesday 02 October	BWI	Architecture
Wednesday 09 October	Competition	Architecture
Wednesday 06 November	BWI	After dark long exposure
Wednesday 13 November	Competition	After dark long exposure
Wednesday 04 December	BWI	Imitate your favourite B&W photographer
Wednesday 11 December	Gala Evening	

CHANGE TO PROGRAMME

Reference January 2019 e-mail to members titled HP Newsflash : BWI Meeting

In the survey last year, many members asked for more instruction and some informative videos were played at the regular competition evenings. Because this extended the length of the meeting, which was already too long, it was decided that we should move instruction to the Black and White meetings on the first Wednesday of each month. The instruction will be general and not targeted to black and white photography. These Black and White and Instruction meetings will now be referred to as BWI meetings and will comprise of one hour on black and white photography and one hour of general photography instruction, with a coffee/tea break-in between. We encourage all members to come to these evenings for the instruction and hope that you will also get inspired by the black and white photography. Initially we will use local speakers and our own members for instructional segments, because we need to ensure sizeable audiences before asking speakers to drive through from Cape Town.

To kick off this initiative, Steve Trimby will do a short presentation at the next BWI meeting, which will be followed by an informal talk by a local wedding photographer, Paul Woods. Paul is known to a few of our members and has given us some good instruction on portrait photography and flash at his coffee shop in the Gants Centre. We hope to see you at the meeting on Wednesday 6th February. You might also want to consider submitting some black and white images too. The set subject is Motion Blur and as for the normal club meetings you may submit up to three images; 2 set subject and 1 open, or 1 set subject and 2 open.

Saturday 09 February <i>All Day</i>	Kenilworth Racecourse
Saturday 06 April <i>Morning</i>	Elgin Railway Market
Friday 17 - Sunday 19 May <i>Weekend</i>	Arniston
Saturday 01 June <i>Early Start</i>	Jonkershoek, Postcard Cafe
Saturday 10 August <i>Afternoon</i>	Kalk Bay
Friday 13 - Sunday 15 September <i>Weekend</i>	West Coast National Park
Saturday 12 October <i>All Day</i>	Atlantis Dunes



TREKKING TALES Outings

Steve Trimby

Steve Crane &
Chris (Admin)

Steve T (076 565 6250) stevetrimby@gmail.com is the person to contact if you are interested and there is still space for the **Kenilworth Racecourse : Saturday 09 February** outing.

COMPETITION RESULTS & NEWS



January 2019

Set subject was landscapes (as opposed to sea and cityscapes)
Judges were Waldemar Bussiahn (visiting judge), and club members : Chris Herselmann, Rachel Gemmel and Steve Trimby
Winners:



1st : Blue Bay
(Peter Dewar)
Open : Projected



2nd : Yes I did
Hilldidge Beer
Set : Projected



3rd : Scheeperspost
Peter Dewar
Open : Prints

The full results can be found on the club website at <https://helderbergphoto.com/scores>

The set subject for March 2019 is **portrait**

- Includes human, animal, wildlife, macro (small living creatures)
- Can be full body, head and shoulders, face or part of face
- Filling the frame or using space
- Portray the personality of the subject or convey the current mood
- Glamour, magazine, reportage, nude, etc
- High key or low key, contrast or harmony

Reference : JAP classes

PRINTS

Members - please do **not** remove your prints from the meetings before the winners are announced. If you need to leave early, Issi will take good care of your print(s) until next time.

2019 SET SUBJECTS

Who chose these? Brilliant! Impossible to do that! Exciting! Why isn't there ...? I love ... I don't like ... I can't wait to get start.

Shhh, cool it! We'll let you chose your own subjects.

And that's just what will be happening in 2019. You have permission to go out and shoot anything.

Oh no! That's not why you joined HPS. You expect guidance and education and inspiration. OKaaaay, I hear you.

In 2019 the set subjects will provide that too. The 2019 set subjects (and you get to submit 2 a month, or just 1, or none at all if it's a bad month) will vary over the year from a **genre** of photography to a photographic **technique**. That's where the learning and developing comes in. Each month brings a new challenge to research, explore and think differently. The newsletter will contain web links for information on the subject of the following month. Steve T has set up great opportunities in arranging his outings to time with the set subjects, starting with a free entry to Kenilworth Race Course (thanks Rachel) on 9 February to capture motion blur and Steve C will try to source educational content for meetings relating to the subjects.

Ja well, no fine, but what's is a Genre and who's Technically minded?

Club members specialising in certain genres – think of Sonja's Architecture, Ben's Wildlife, and others – are always willing to share knowledge.

Technique - a method of accomplishing a desired aim.

So many learning and photographic self improvement opportunities to try new things. You might want to produce a selectively focused minimalistic entry.

For endless inspiration and how to <https://www.smashingmagazine.com/2009/04/the-ultimate-photography-round-up/>

Genre - a category of artistic, musical, or literary composition characterized by a particular style, form, or content.

There are many photographic genres. For a quick understanding look at https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Category:Photography_by_genre and for deeper understanding or to get really confused <http://shutha.org/photo-genres>.

From the many, HPS has chosen Landscape, Portrait, Minimalistic, Wildlife, Street photography and Architecture.

The year's technique subjects are Motion blur, Leading Lines, Selective Focus, Backlit and After Dark long exposure.

Techniques can be applied in any genre, and if you read shutha above, the two also overlap, so don't wait until a technique month to read up on a new way to do things.

Talk to a member whose techniques you've admired, Paddy, Izak, Danie... We are after all a club with loads of *cameraderie*.



!! WESTERN CAPE PHOTOGRAPHIC FORUM !!

This from Nicol du Toit, Regional Director - Western Cape, Photographic Society South Africa

I'll appreciate it if you will be so kind as to bring the following to your members' attention:

The Western Cape Photographic Forum wants to start an Honours working group under the leadership of Antenie Carstens and would like to invite members of the photographic societies in the Western Cape to take part. People joining the group will have to commit to try and get an honours panel together within the next year or so, and they must also realise that honours is only available to paid up PSSA members. If they are not currently members they will be required to join the PSSA before applying for honours. For more info visit

<http://www.pssa.co.za/honours-and-awards/honours-information/how-does-it-work?highlight=WyJob25vdXJzIl0=>

Our first meeting is on **Saturday 2 February 2019 at 13h30** at the SASNEV Centre in Pinelands. I'd appreciate it if you will be so kind as to again bring it to your members' attention as soon as possible and ask them to contact me urgently at nicol@sportstrader.co.za

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+27 (0)82 377 8285

CAPE PHOTOGRAPHER'S CONGRESS IN MONTAGU : 2019

Visit the following sites for more information on this event

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xVVDPAeRKck&feature=youtu.be>

<http://www.pssa.co.za/congress/cape-photographers/2019-montagu-congress>



GETTING YOUR FEET WET/"WHAT MAKES ME CLICK"

There is much appreciation in the club of others' works - why not volunteer to do a short 'show & tell' of your creations.

FREEMAN PATTERSON

Curious about Freeman talking winter; Namaqualand and what happens during his stay and workshops there; the wilderness of the ocean; The Sound of a Wild Snail Eating; the Blue Mountains of Australia and sharing photos of Spring. Then click the links below.

Read Freeman's latest periodical letter<<https://freemanpatterson.us18.list-manage.com/track/click?u=640fd74e63966331e9baf7fec&id=6992eb8ee0&e=e9289fd2fc>>.

Or visit Freeman's website<<https://freemanpatterson.us18.list-manage.com/track/click?u=640fd74e63966331e9baf7fec&id=e14e71e2ab&e=e9289fd2fc>>.

Thank you Nettie for continuing to contribute.

- Q1 Current camera
Steve I use two. A full frame 6D for landscapes, portraits and general. A crop sensor 7Dii for any telephoto applications, wildlife and where I want a good burst rate in continuous shooting.
- Q2 Have you always used this brand
Steve Yes, since 1981, when I bought a Canon AE1, so I am unlikely to change, but I am not anti-Nikon. I like Nikon's rich colours.
- Q3 Favourite lens
Steve Can I have a few favourites? I love my 24-105L for walkabout. My 100-400L is a great telephoto for wildlife. My new Sigma 24mm f/1.4 art lens is supersharp and I am enjoying it for landscapes and astro-photography.
- Q4 Your name is 'historically' well known in Somerset West – why did it take you so long to join HPS
Steve I have enjoyed taking photos since the age of 9, but I was really only a happy snapper until about 3 years ago when Nigel Mudge invited me for a Wednesday evening. I was very impressed by the standard of photography in the HPS so I bought a Canon 60D and did a few online courses, to get up to speed, and joined a year later.
- Q5 Photographic destination that you return to time and time again, and why
Steve We have a holiday house in Gansbaai and go there about every three weeks. I love to sit on the rocks with my beautiful dog and watch and photograph the whales. It is food for the soul.
- Q6 Destination on your bucket list, and why
Steve Patagonia. It has some of the most amazing landscapes.
- Q7 What editing software do you use
Steve Lightroom and a little bit of Photoshop - but I am not very good with Photoshop.
- Q8 Favourite professional photographer
Steve Thomas Heaton. I really enjoy his You Tube videos. Watch one and you will see why. <https://thomasheaton.co.uk/>
- Q9 Do you Instagram - why/why not
Steve No. I don't like having my rectangular photographs cropped into a square.
- Q10 In your opinion, the benefits of being a member of the HPS
Steve There are so many, but I will give you four. First, to share a hobby/passion/obsession with a lovely bunch of people. Second, to learn and get inspiration from the other members' photographs. Third, those regular Wednesday meetings push us to get clicking and try to produce something good each month. Fourth, some great outings and weekends away.

If you would like to be the featured photographer please let Fiona know.



GETTING TO KNOW YOU



Getting to know
~ Steve Trimby ~

Photo Credit
Steve Trimby

**QUOTE
OF
THE
MONTH**
Editor



"The eye should learn to listen before it looks"

Robert Frank : a Swiss-American photographer and documentary filmmaker. His most notable work, the 1958 book titled *The Americans*, earned Frank comparisons to a modern-day de Tocqueville for his fresh and nuanced outsider's view of American society.

<https://www.theartstory.org/artist-frank-robert.htm>