Founded in 1954: For the Encouragement of Photography



Member of the PSSA

Website: http://helderbergphoto.co.za

HELDERBERG PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

OCTOBER 2015 NEWSLETTER

CONTENTS

Office Bearers

Editor's Note

Club Matters

Program 2015

Interclub 2015
Article
Invitation from Kirstenbosch
Sunday Times Wildlife Photographer of the Year
Photographic Course

The Last Word

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NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

David, our Chairman, is snowed under with work ... so he is getting a break from having to also write his 'Note' ©

Please take note that the Library hall is still not accessible, and we are using the Club House at Heritage Manor for our meetings – details below.

Thanks to Paddy for her entertaining article on 'Congress in the Canola'... next month we will hear about the weekend outing to Travellers' Rest in the Cedarberg.

Don't forget to get your Interclub tickets from Nettie – Friday 6th November in Bellville – R70 each – details below.

All the best! Nettie ... Ed.

CLUB MATTERS

Take the N2 entrance. Turn left at the robots just after the bridge (the one with the cameras on it) ... at Somerset West Business Park - going to Sir Lowrys Pass - there is an auctioneer on the corner.

At the security gate write L. Offret 74 Heritage Manor (021 851 9329); proceed till you arrive at a circle and Keep LEFT - Heritage Manor is on the RIGHT just before the security gates.

At our security just give my name again and you will see the Club house directly in front of you - plenty of parking - if necessary for more parking turn right at entrance and turn left - there is more parking there.

I will alert our security gate of your arrival and try and get somebody to direct you for the extra parking

For exiting go back to the N2 as the Main Road entrance is too complicated to get into/out of the park.

PROGRAM 2015

7 th October	B&W Set Subject 'Conventional Landscape'
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14th October Review

28th October Audio Visual

4th November B&W Set Subject 'Painting with Light'

11th November Club Meeting Set Subject 'Painting with Light'

25th November Audio Visual

2nd December B&W Set Subject 'Corners'

9th December Gala Evening

30th December No Meeting

CAPE INTERCLUB PHOTOGRPHIC COMPETITION 2015

To be held at the CR Louw Auditorium SANLAM Head Office 2 Strand Street BELLVILLE

Friday the 6th of November 2015

18h00 for viewing of Prints

19h15 for viewing of PDIs, and Presentations in the auditorium

Hosted by Swartland Fotografieklub (SFK)

Enquiries:
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Tickets can be ordered from Nettie at R70 each. nettie28@iafrica.com

Article

'Canola Caper'		Paddy Howes
Swellendam 9	– 14 th August 2015	

As I was leaving home for the Swellendam congress on Friday, I decided to take along my snug blankie and a cushion – a very good idea at the time.

Our lecture hall was vast – seating for over 200 delegates – which was held at the Agriculture showgrounds, with lots of easy parking for all the smart 4x4s!

The hard-worked PSSA Committee, as usual, had slaved beforehand to get the hall ready, setting up the huge screen, mikes, computers, sound equipment and projector - all were perfect (Antenie – thanks again!). The light was blocked out, and not a stray beam entered. The concrete floor absorbed the cold ... after the first lecture many of us ran to our cars for rugs, cushions and extra coats. The weather wasn't too bad and we had sun some of the afternoons.

Each day we were given tea/coffee, rusks at 8.30am, after a sunrise shoot. Lectures started at 9.00am. Lunch was also served in the hall, so we didn't have to move around town — we could take our box of food outside and sit in the sun and catch up with old friends or make new ones. For dinner we were divided into groups and ate at a different restaurant each night ... all very tasty, but 'Field and Fork' must get a mention — delicious!

The local tourist info lady, Amanda Shackley took us under her wing and provided shoots on farms of the canola (if we had not had enough on the way there – yes, it was in bloom), plus two excursions into the local informal settlement, well worth going, as she knows the people and is providing a great service for two delightful women to start their own B+B with some help with overseas money; and has recently opened a new school – well done.

I went on one trip and we were treated to the kid's traditional dances, all of the costumes handmade; and to a bear-making demo. Then a talk-about, walk-about through the village – right up my street. Do it if you stay in Swellendam.

On the main street is one of the best aloe, succulent nurseries ... I could have caused serious damage to my savings – it's called 'Rooiklip'. The Berry Estate and Marloth Nature Reserve and the Bontebok Park are all nearby. There are hundreds of places to stay in the town – catering for all pockets. A visit to the Studio Pottery of David Schlapobersky is a must. It's been there many years; his huge creative stoneware pots are superb, and he's happy to be photographed while throwing – nice man, nice pots. At night one saw many photographers wandering around, especially around the big white church lit up at night – we'll be seeing photos of it in the 'Image' I am sure.

Some energetic Jo'burgers dashed off to Struisbaai and Arniston to get their dose of the big blue ocean. Most of us found what we wanted to photograph, record, capture in around about 30 kms of the town. Every afternoon we had time out, to go on the twisty dirt roads, the wheat farms green and yellow stretching to the blue mountains in the distance over wavy hills, dotted with full dams reflecting the clouds – an Overberg dream. Bridges were on some photographer's lists.

Lectures: I really enjoyed them all. Some better than others, as to what was your taste. We had a little history of the Boer War relating to the steam trains/railways which transported the troops and horses up and down the country... very interesting. We also went to the Antarctic on a square rigger, a very tough trip, but worth the stunning blue ice photos, huge icebergs and this tiny little sailing ship in between sticks in my memory. We were taken into Darkest Africa ... deep down into huge dripping caves, where it was difficult to photograph but amazing images were captured – huge crystals, little white ones, stalactites and stalagmites. We went off to Germany to see a gay parade, the USA, and into the canyons.

PSSA: Always has lots of 'wild life' enthusiastic photographers, and they were well catered for, of the best leopard shots – the best in the world. Sport and landscapes were discussed

and shown, some a bit over-saturated for my taste. The speakers were so willing to share their secrets.

A highlight for me were the sessions with photo-journalist Benny Gool, who has taken the photos (a whole history) of Mandela, and is now the main photographer documenting Tutu's (call me 'Arch') life. He also has documented the gangs of the Cape Flats, putting his life in real danger. He took the front page Cape Times image of 'Stakie' on fire – disturbing and interesting. He has intimate knowledge of all the gang leaders.

On the last morning my highlight was 'Obie's Way'. He had us eating out of his hand from the first image. His idea of 'wild life' – which he doesn't do! (or sunsets or sunrises). He took us on incredible journeys, seeing the world through his amazing eyes. He's had 10 international one man exhibitions in Europe. His next book is out in October – I can't wait!

We also had the Nikon guy at the back of the hall, who we could to at anytime, and ask stupid questions... and get the right answer – a great service.

I was so busy I didn't even have time to visit the Drostdy Museum. Everyone was passionate about their way of photographing and the speakers gave generously and their knowledge. We had every afternoon to it 'our way' – it was a Congress to remember.



SUNDAY TIMES WILDLIFE PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR

I administrate the **Sunday Times Wildlife Photographer of the Year** and **Sunday Times Travel Photographer of the Year** awards. I would be grateful if you could share word of South Africa's premier photography competition on your Facebook and other social-media pages. Even easier — LIKE & find us on Facebook and simply share our latest post at www.facebook.com/suntimesphoto. Each post links directly to all relevant entry info. Of course, we would be delighted if you could spread news of the competition in any other way.

The Sunday Times Wildlife Photographer of the Year and Sunday Times Travel

Photographer of the Year awards are the local Oscars of travel and wildlife photography.

Every serious photographer – amateur or professional – should consider entering.

WHY ENTER? The winning photographers in 2015 can add the prestigious title of Sunday Times Wildlife Photographer of the Year or Sunday Times Travel Photographer of the Year to their list of achievements. With support from the Sunday Times, Canon SA and Wild Eye, the competition is giving away once-in-a-lifetime prizes, such as a R120 000 luxury photo safari for two to photograph the 2016 Great Migration in the Masai Mara, Kenya; R240 000 in top-of-the-range cameras and gear from Canon SA; a R5 000 cash prize in each category every month until December – and much more.

HOW TO ENTER: Entering is as easy as sending an e-mail – no forms required! E-mail up to 10 high-res travel photos a month to travelphoto@sundaytimes.co.za; e-mail up to 10 high-res wildlife photos a month to wildphoto@sundaytimes.co.za. The competition is open to SA residents / citizens. Photographs taken in or after February 2013 may be entered. It's that simple!

GET YOUR PHOTO FIX ONLINE: How to enter the travel category:

http://bit.ly/1IFngM2 | How to enter the wildlife category: http://bit.ly/1B51oSi | LIKE our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/suntimesphoto or find us on the brand-new Sunday Times website at www.timeslive.co.za/sundaytimes/travel/photographer.

Now in its fourth consecutive year, the year-round Sunday Times Wildlife / Travel Photographer of the Year awards – in association with Canon SA and Wild Eye – are the largest photographic competitions in South Africa by reach, duration, prizes and institution. In 2015, the Sunday Times, Canon SA and Wild Eye are giving away R500 000 in expert-led photo safaris to Kenya's Masai Mara; Canon cameras and gear; monthly cash prizes and more. Photographs are judged by renowned lensmen and women, such as **Obie Oberholzer** (doyen of South African travel photography), **Greg du Toit** (winner of the prestigious BBC / Natural History Museum Wildlife Photographer of the Year 2013), internationally acclaimed Sunday Times senior photographer **James Oatway** and **Neo Ntsoma**, the first woman recipient of the CNN African Journalist of the Year Award in the photography category.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should I be able to answer any questions. We look forward to receiving submissions from the Helderberg Photographic Society. Amateurs and professionals are welcome!

Thanks and best regards

Tiara Walters

Administrator: Sunday Times Wildlife / Travel Photographer of the Year

Wildlife e-mail: wildphoto@sundaytimes.co.za | travel e-mail:

travelphoto@sundaytimes.co.za

Entry details: www.facebook.com/suntimesphoto | www.facebook.com/suntimesphoto | www.timeslive.co.za/sundaytimes/travel/photographer

PHOTOGRAPHIC COURSE

Roger Lee will be running his very popular photographic course \dots for the last time \dots on Saturday, 10^{th} October.

Roger Lee 021-856-2176 083-635-4282

THE LAST WORD



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