

Member of the PSSA

Website: http://helderbergphoto.co.za

Founded in 1954: For the Encouragement of Photography

HELDERBERG PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

OCTOBER 2016 NEWSLETTER

CONTENTS

Office Bearers

Chairman's Note Letter from Antenie Carstens Interclub **Interclub tickets HPS Print sizes HPS Outing to Paternoster Results of September Club Competition Program 2016 and 2017 Black and White Outings Wild Shots Steve's Corner #10** Workshops **Free digital Course Calibrator** Luggage check-in E-Mails **Archives** The Last Word

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NOTE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

In 'Steve's Corner #10' he touches on the subject of studying photography by reading ... There is nothing like a treasured book to dip into when a photographic question arises. Even the internet has a mine of information answering any queries about any aspect of photography ... do take the time to investigate all aspects of the 'how to'. It's so easy to come to club meetings to find out how one 'should NOT' do something ...let's read up about what CAN be done!

Nettie

LETTER FROM ANTENIE CARSTENS

PSSA Director Western Cape

11 September 2016

Dear Club Chairman/Chairlady

Surely the highlight of the past few months was the recent PSSA annual congress at Club Mykonos, Langebaan! Congratulations to Johan Kloppers and his team for making this a great event. Also congratulations to Cape Town Photographic Society for being the club with the most members to attend (of any club represented at the congress). No less than 18 members of the society attended, at least three of them were part of the organising committee. The newly elected PSSA directors were introduced, and again Cape Town Photographic Society featured as both Western Province directors are members of CTPS. New to the board of directors, Alicia Greyling has been co-opted to fill the position of Johan Kloppers who retired as regional director. Alicia would soon be introducing herself to the clubs as well as handing over a PSSA award to a Western Cape Club member for service. Congratulations to her and I am sure we all wish her well for the task at hand.

The following Western Cape members received their honours for their respective panels: Hestie das Nevas, Christo and Marleen la Grange, Clifford and Anne Wyeth, Joan Ward, Stephen Burgstahler, Francina Swart and Kim Stevens. Congratulations to all!

The results of the Marike Bruwer Award was also announced at the Congress. The winner is a member of the former Swellendam Photographic Club, Francina Swart who received her award at the congress. This is the second time in three years that Francina won this award, congratulations!

A special congratulations must go to Cape Town Photographic Society who produced a "Celebrating 125 years of Cape Town Photographic Society" publication, illustrating their proud history since 1890. The editor, Trudi du Toit and her team produced a truly valuable document of the society and their efforts which should be commended. I am thrilled by this, as I believe too many of our photographic clubs forget about their history without proper recording. We will regret this when it is too late. A copy of this publication was presented to PSSA president, Francois Rousseau during the congress.

The next highlight will be the Western Cape Interclub which will be hosted by Creative Camera Club on the 28th of October at the Sanlam Auditorium. Your club should have the details by now.

Best regards

Antenie Carstens (FPSSA, SPSSA, APSSA (vers), ARPS)
PSSA Director (Western Cape)
(cell: 073-303-7125)
P.O. Box 1262,
Stellenbosch. 7600

INTERCLUB 2016 takes place at the Sanlam Head office, 2 Strand Road, Bellville, on Friday 28th October. The Gallery opens from 18h00 for viewing of Prints, and at 19h15 PDIs will be shown in the auditorium, followed by presentations. There will be light snacks, wine and juice, as well as a cash bar.

Interclub this year has been organised by Creative Camera Club

Our members are encouraged to attend the evening ... Antenie does an excellent job of producing a dvd showing all the submissions. This is the time to evaluate the standard of club photography in the Western Cape, and be inspired by wonderful images.

Next year it will be Helderberg's turn to host the event!

INTERCLUB TICKETS

We have 20 Interclub tickets available for sale at R75 each. If you would like to order, please make an eft payment to the HPS account for the correct amount, using your name as a reference. Nettie will have them with her – in case you see her before Interclub she will give you your ticket; otherwise she will hand you your ticket at the door on Interclub evening. Extra tickets will be available for sale at the door.

Banking Details

Account name: Helderberg Photographic Society

Bank & Branch: Nedbank, Stellenbosch

Branch code: 107110 (+00 at end, if necessary for your bank)

OR

198765 (Nedbank Universal code)

Account Number: 2608001130 (it is a SAVINGS Account)

NB: Please indicate your name as reference, or send an e-mail with proof of payment to Michele at

michele@michelemoss.co.za.

HPS PRINT SIZES

It has come to light that HPS's print size requirements (on the website) are not the same as Interclub's sizes. This has meant that a few members' prints have had to be resized and reprinted for this year's Interclub. Although a switch to Interclub sizes still needs to be confirmed by the HPS Committee, it might well be advisable to already start using the Interclub print sizes viz.

- 1. Prints must be mounted on board, but not framed or block-mounted.
- 2. Prints must be clearly marked with an arrow on the back, indicating the right way up.
- 3. The title of the print, the name of photographer
- 4. The minimum size of a print (without its mount) is 150 mm x 200 mm. (6" x 8")
- 5. The *maximum* size of a print (without its mount) is 300 mm x 450 mm. (12" x 18")
- 6. The maximum size of the mount board may not exceed 400 mm x 550 mm. We apologise to those members who have had to have their prints resized and reprinted. Hopefully this will now be a thing of the past.

HPS OUTING TO PATERNOSTER ON THE WEST COAST By Jenny Simpson

From Friday the 23rd to Monday the 26th of September Gavin and Denise Whiteford, Guy and Nichole Palmer, Peter and Mari Dewar, Paddy Howes and Jenny Simpson immersed themselves in a glorious non-stop feast of photography.

Our base - Moschel House right on the front, (in Millionaires Row?)

The Photographic Gods were there in abundance --- exquisite, sunny, windless weather for all four days.

Beaches fringed with curly waves stretched to the horizon, weather worn brightly hued fishing boats lay scattered about. The odd tipsy fisherman precariously negotiated his old bike along the hard sand.



Cheeky, giggling kids posed for snapshots.

Every single morning except the last we were up before sunrise photographing on the beach; Paddy, a little under the weather health wise, photographing in her pajamas.

Then off to Titties Baai --- an unbelievable treasure chest of photographic opportunities.

Mammoth rocks shouldering the sky their muscles bulging under orange lichen covers.

Flowers everywhere. Orange and white daisies set against the azure Atlantic. Thousands of mauvepink Lachenalias squashed in narrow rock crevices jostling for a share of century's old guano. Masses of glistening white and mauve Mesembryanthemums brazenly exposing themselves to the early warmth of a spring sun.

Perfect conditions for lying on one's stomach glued to a Macro lens!



A gift of hundreds of Common Terns resting, heads tucked under wings on an enormous rock. If you sat quietly on the beach, camera ready you might just catch them on the wing, rise as one and fly wildly about as if shaken awake by a shared lurking nightmare.



Gentle bays where the turquoise water lapped in and out. Shells stashed together in their millions – a treasure trove of objets!

Don't let's forget the sunsets! We had white birds in the morning and then black at night. Millions of cormorants just above the dark blue ocean hurrying back to safe night time roosts. Two very obliging gulls sitting on a great big black boulder with the setting sun behind them as the world turned orange.

As the world darkened we hurried back home to one of Guy's legendary braais and the possibility of a little painting with light around the fishing boats.

Thank you Paddy for organizing an awesome Outing.

RESULTS OF SEPTEMBER CLUB COMPETITION 'A Touch of Colour'

Prints: Set Subject

1st: 'Winter Colour' by JJ van Heerden

2nd: 'A Touch of Colour' by Paddy Howes

3rd: 'Before Dawn' by Peter Dewar

Prints: Open

1st: 'Canola Country' by Peter Dewar

2nd: 'The Vines' by Sonja Greunbauer

3rd: 'Do Not Go Gentle into that Good Night' by Florian Breuer

Projected: Set Subject

1st: 'On the Ledge' by Peter Dewar

2nd: 'Osteospernum Bride' by Viv Harpur

3rd: 'Standing Strong' by Denise Kleinhans

Projected: Open

1st: 'Dance A Flame' by Danie Coetzee

2nd: 'Insomnia' by Wessel Wessels

3rd: 'Watercolour Rose' by Fiona Nell



'On the ledge' by Peter Dewar'



'Dance a Flame' by Danie Coetzee'

PROGRAM 2016

Tue 4 October 2016	Black & White	Patterns
Wed 12 October 2016	Review	
Wed 26 October 2016	Audio-Visual	
Tue 1 November 2016	Black & White	Low Light
Wed 9 November 2016	Competition	Low Light
Tue 29 November 2016	Audio-Visual	
Tue 6 December 2016	Black & White	Texture
Wed 14 December 2016	Gala Evening	

PROGRAM 2017

Due to the fact that we have not yet received our confirmed library hall dates (the matter is in hand), at this stage we can only advise what the Set Subject will be for next year viz.

January: 'In the Kitchen'

February: 'Transport'

March: 'Macro'

April: Review

May: 'Mystery'

June: Review

July: 'Drama of Light'

August: 'Interaction'

September: 'Emotion'

October: Review

November: 'Illuminated'

December: Gala Evening

BLACK AND WHITE

The B&W set subjects will be the same as the above. The three extra set subjects are -

April: 'Lines'

June: 'street Photography'

October: 'Ruins'

OUTINGS

Saturday 22nd October: There will be an outing to photograph the cacti gardens at 'Sheilam' on the Klaasvoogds West Road, Robertson – be there by 9.30am

Tel. 023 6264133

<u>Friday 16 December (Public Holiday):</u> Paddy will be organising the ever popular rally – details to be advised.

Saturday 28th January: Topless Bus tour starting from the Waterfront at 4pm

Further outings being planned include: Grootvadersbos, Mamre, Porterville weekend, the agricultural shows at Franschhoek and/or Villiersdorp

WILD SHOTS 2016

The programmes for Wild Shots are now finalised and registration is open!

Event details:

- Saturday 22 October: JOHANNESBURG, Vega School of Business, Randburg
 - Saturday 29 October: CAPE TOWN, Nedbank Auditorium, V&A Waterfront.

We are delighted to announce that this year's keynote will be given by **Jonathan and Angela Scott**, of BBC Big Cat Diary, and the only couple to have won the Overall Award in the prestigious BBC Wildlife Photographer of the Year Competition as individuals. Other international speakers include Cristina Mittermeier (founder of the International League for Conservation Photography) and Joris van Alphen, winner of National Geographic's Emerging Nature Photographer Award. South Africans joining this year's line up include Albert Froneman, Jacques Marais, Andrew Beck, Andrew Aveley, Scott Ramsay and Anton Crone.

www.wildshotsevent.com

Steve's Corner #10

by Steve Crane

Procrastination is a terrible affliction; as usual I had left writing this to the very last moment, and had no idea what to write about. I took a look through a folder I keep of photography related reading material in the hope that I would find some inspiration. I didn't and decided to share this list that I had saved instead.

12 essential facts, formulas, and photographic rules (original author unknown)

What happens when your systems go belly-up, when all of that cutting-edge technology dies and you must rely on (gasp!) your own knowledge? It pays to have these basics in your head. They can get you out of a jam and help you get good shots when nothing else will.

- 1. Sunny 16 rule: The basic exposure for an average scene taken on a bright, sunny day is f/16 at a shutter speed equivalent to one over the ISO setting—that is, f/16 at 1/100 sec at ISO 100. From this you can interpolate, and try f/22 at the beach, f/11 on a cloudy-bright day, etc.
- 2. Moony 11, 8, and 5.6 rules: There are many different rules that work well when shooting the moon. One favourite for a proper exposure of a full moon is f/11 at one over the ISO setting. For pictures of a half moon, use the same shutter speed at f/8, and for a quarter moon, use the same shutter speed at f/5.6.
- 3. Camera shake rule: The slowest shutter speed at which you can safely handhold a camera is one over the focal length of the lens in use. As shutter speeds get slower, camera shake is likely to result in an increasing loss of sharpness. So, if you're using a 50mm lens, shoot at 1/60 sec or faster. Not enough light? Use a flash, tripod, or brace your camera against a solid object.
- 4. Anatomical grey card Metering off an 18-percent neutral grey card is a good way to get a mid tone reading that will give you a good overall exposure of a scene. Forgot your grey card? Hold your open hand up so it's facing the light, take a reading off your palm, open up one stop, and shoot. (Various skin tones rarely account for even a full-stop difference.)
- 5. Depth of field rules: When focusing on a deep subject, focus on a point about a third of the way into the picture to maximize depth of field, because the depth-of-field zone behind that point is about twice as deep as the depth-of-field zone in front of it. This works for all apertures and focal lengths, but the smaller the aperture and the shorter the focal length, and the greater the distance you shoot at, the greater the depth of field.
- 6. Largest digital print rule: To calculate in inches the largest photo-quality print you can make with a digital camera, divide the vertical and horizontal pixel counts (see your manual) by 200. For critical applications, or if you want exhibition-quality prints, divide the pixel counts by 250.
- 7. Exposure rules: The classic advice is, "Expose for the highlights, and let the shadows take care of themselves." This works with slide film and digital. But with negative film, especially colour negative, you're better off overexposing by one stop.
- 8. Quick flash-fill rule: When using an automatic flash unit that doesn't provide auto flash-fill ratios, set the flash's ISO dial to twice the ISO you're using. Meter the scene, select an f-stop, set

- the auto flash aperture to the same f-stop, and shoot. The resulting 2:1 flash-fill ratio will produce filled shadows one stop darker than the main subject.
- 9. Flash range rule: Want to know how much extra flash range you get by going to a faster ISO? The rule is, "Double the distance, four times the speed." For example: If your flash is good to 20 feet at ISO 100 (film or digital), it will be good to 40 feet at ISO 400.
- 10. Megapixel multiplier rule: To double the resolution in a digital camera, you must increase the number of megapixels by a factor of four—not two. Why? The number of pixels in both the vertical and horizontal dimensions must be doubled to double the pixel density across the image sensor.
- 11. Action-stopping rules: To stop action moving across the frame that's perpendicular to the lens axis, you need shutter speeds two stops faster than action moving toward or away from you. For action moving at a 45-degree angle to the lens axis, you can use a shutter speed one stop slower. For example: If a person running toward you at moderate speed can be stopped at 1/125 sec, you'll need a shutter speed of 1/500 sec to stop the subject moving across the frame, and a shutter speed of 1/250 sec to stop him if moving obliquely with respect to the camera.
- 12. Sunset rule: To get a properly exposed sunset, meter the area directly above the sun (without including the sun). If you want the scene to look like it's a half-hour later, stop down by one f-stop, or set exposure compensation to minus one.

A Lesser Photographer by CJ Chilvers

This rather unusual photography book doesn't let you look at the works of great photographers or teach you techniques for taking or processing photos. Instead it provides tips on improving your photographs by working with what you have, teaching you how to do more with less.

The book is available as a downloadable PDF document for only \$5 from Craft & Vision, who have this to say about the book.

The best photographers of the last century—the ones who have made the most enduring and iconic photographs—all tell us the same thing: it's not about the camera. A Lesser Photographer by CJ Chilvers is about escaping the gear trap and focusing on what matters: the things that actually make better photographs, like creativity and authenticity.

So instead of worrying about your f-stop, you can concentrate on doing more with less. Less gear. Less comparison. Less "should" and "ought" and "if only," and more of you, reflected in your work.

Go to https://craftandvision.com/products/a-lesser-photographer to buy a copy, and also take a look at all the other great books that Craft & Vision offer, most at only \$5 or \$10. While you're there sign up for their newsletter and you'll receive updates in your inbox, telling you of new books they make available and sometimes telling you how you can get some of the books they offer for free or at even lower prices than normal.

WORKSHOPS

Overberg Photographic Workshop run by JJ van Heerden and Wicus Leeuwner at Volmoed retreat, Hemel and Aarde Valley, Hermanus, from Wed. 26th October to Sunday 30th October. Contact Tanya at stejp@telkomsa.net Special price for HPS members

FREE DIGITAL COURSE

STANFORD PROFESSOR PUTS HIS ENTIRE DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY COURSE ONLINE FOR FREE

September 2, 2016 · John Aldred



When it comes to the list of digital imaging pioneers, Marc Levoy is one of those names that belongs right near the top. His work has led to many of the technical advances that we see in use today with computer generated imagery. So, it's no wonder that he jumped into digital photography. From 2009 until 2014, Levoy taught digital photography at Stanford.

In 2016, he revised the course and taught it again at Google in Spring. Now, the entire revised course is available online completely free. The course assumes no prior knowledge of photography whatsoever. It covers pretty much everything you'd ever want to know about photography. Covering a multitude of technical aspects from the basics to extremely in-depth.

There's hours and hours of video covering Levoy's lectures to Google over a 4 month period. Several web based apps are there, too, to help understand some of the trickier technical concepts of photography. He also provides several assignments to help you challenge yourself and put what you've learned to good use.

It's a whole hell of a lot of stuff to read and watch. From what I've seen so far, it's well worth watching it all.

You can find the entire course for free here. If you have any interest at all in the technical side of photography (you should), then what are you waiting for? Get stuck in!

CALIBRATOR

Today Jay P Morgan at The Slanted Lens demonstrates how you can calibrate your lenses using the SpyderLensCal Camera-Focus Calibrator. This is a great tool to help you ensure your lenses focus accurately every time.

SpyderLensCal™ provides a fast, reliable method of measuring the focus performance on your camera and lens combinations. It allows photographers to obtain razor-sharp focusing or check to see that their lenses are working at their peak performance. This device is compact, lightweight and durable, with integrated level and tri-pod mount. Let's see how it works...

Watch more from Jay P's YouTube channel, The Slanted Lens. You can also follow him on any of the following social channels: Twitter, Facebook or Google+.

<u>Luggage check-in: Your domestic travelling cheat sheet!</u>

2016-09-13 08:00:00 PM

Cape Town - The check-in process is infamously known for being chaotic, stressful and sometimes, depressing. The situation intensifies when travellers show up with way too much luggage and bags that are way too heavy.

This confusion is caused primarily by the many different weight restrictions for luggage across the different airlines.

Well, we've got good news for our domestic travellers... <u>Cheapflights.co.za</u> compiled a very convenient 'cheat sheet' of local airlines in South Africa that includes the restrictions on the checked luggage and hand luggage allowance.

The Managing Director of <u>Cheapflights.co.za</u>, Andrew Shelton says, "Many people assume the policy doesn't differ from one airline to the next and tend to over-pack. To avoid hefty charges at the airport, rather pay for extra luggage online before, to avoid an unpleasant surprise at the airport".

Here's a list of the five domestic airlines with luggage and check-in information:

FlySafair

<u>FlySafair</u> allows a luggage weight of 20kg at R150 per bag... that's if you book online. If not, the rate is R250 at the airport and a hand luggage allowance of up to 7kg is free.

Mango

Mango airline allows for 20kg luggage and anything there over is charged for at a rate payable at the airport. A 7kg hand luggage is permitted on board and excess baggage is charged at R35 per kg if you booked online. If you haven't then the rate is R45 to check in at the airport.

South African Airways

<u>SAA</u> allows a total of 23kg of luggage. Any piece of luggage that exceeds this weighting should be checked in as Cargo at specific rates. Being a little more generous than other airlines, SAA allows a total 8kg hand luggage.

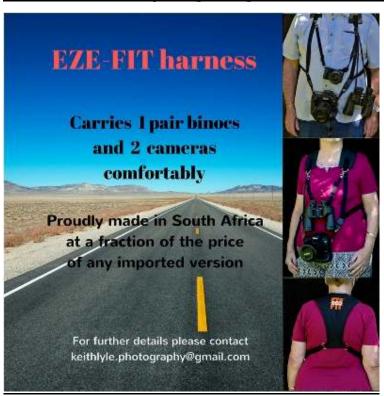
British Airways

<u>British Airways</u> permits their passengers to check in a total of 23kg and anything above and beyond this will set travelers back by an online booking of R290 and an airport booking of R385.

Kulula

<u>Kulula</u> allows for a total of 20kg of luggage and extra bags can be purchased online at 25% off if purchased 24 hours before departure. A 7kg weighting of hand luggage is permitted and passengers who are in need of travelling with extra bags will be charged R290 online or R385 at the airport.

E-Mail from Keith Lyle regarding the 'Eze-Fit' harness



Hi Nettie,

As discussed, the attached flyer shows the multiple uses of this harness. It was originally designed by a medical doctor-come-birdwatcher to make carrying binoculars and cameras more manageable, leaving hands free while chasing after that elusive, "Tri-spotted Lesser Doowicky Bird". With replacement webbing, one can carry two cameras quite comfortably, attached to the ergonomically designed EZE-FIT harness.

It sells for R 495.00 excluding postage, or can be collected from me in Fish Hoek.

Kindly pass this on to your members, and they are welcome to contact me on the number below, or by email at keithlyle.photography@qmail.com

Kind regards,

Keith Lyle

http://keithlyle-photography.co.za

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And from one of our members, Helder ...

Hi Nettie

I have just came across a fantastic video, that I think everyone in the club would like to see, but you can be the judge of that.... it's about National Geographic's photographers, and I truly loved it.

Have a look, here is the link

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mAXjQANwXac

Cheers,

Helder.

ARCHIVES



Ansel Adams

THE LAST WORD



"That's a portrait photographer. He takes youies."

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