



Member of the PSSA

Website: <http://helderbergphoto.com>

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Founded in 1954 : For the Encouragement of Photography

HELDERBERG PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

MAY 2017 NEWSLETTER

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CHAIRMAN'S NOTE

April/May seems to be a good time to travel! Peter Dewar, and Neels Beyers, and others have been to Namibia; Paddy Howes, and Izak van Niekerk – with others – are in Central Botswana as we speak. The convention has taken place in Hogsback. Issi has been in the gramadoelas again making star pictures! (... and these are only the ones I know of!...) Ample opportunity to make new images ... especially ones which can be used in the 'My Portfolio' project.

There has been a wonderful reaction to this exercise .. a small catch up article can be read below. This is a wonderful time of year to make photographs – take a day's drive to De Doorns, or the Hermanus coast, or the West Coast National Park, or the farmlands around Riebeeck Kasteel ... so much to see and enjoy!

ADMINISTRATION

Paddy will be away until well into May, so we are skipping a month regarding outings - unless another member has an idea, and who could convene an outing to a place of interest. Please let Nettie know.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

Subscriptions for 2017 will be as follows:

R280 per person, for the year, payable as soon as possible. No discount available. From July – for the remaining months of the year R150

Country Members, Students R150 per person, for the year, payable as soon as possible.

Unfortunately, if you have not paid your subs, you may not enter work for the competitions or review evenings.

NOTE FROM THE TREASURER

The club relies on timeous payment of members' subscriptions

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) SUBSCRIPTIONS 2017

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 .

All subs to be paid ASAP please.

If you no longer wish to be a member of HPS, please send an email to Nettie at nettie28@iafrica.com with 'PLEASE UNSUBSCRIBE' in the subject line. This is only fair.

Please e-mail Michele Moss (our Treasurer) at

michele@michelemoss.co.za should you experience difficulties with the eft process.

Our finances pay toward hall rent, insurance and upkeep of equipment, provision of tea, coffee, biscuits etc., rental of a post box (P.O. Box 2004, Somerset West), Affiliation Fees to the PSSA, travelling money and chocolates for visiting judges, etc. The R10.00 fee for tea or coffee pays for the car guard, Jeremy, and his wife, Gillian, who does the washing up for us.

FUTURE PRINT SIZES FOR HPS (and for Interclub)

1. The *minimum* size of a print (without its mount) is 150 mm x 200 mm. (6" x 8")
2. The *maximum* size of a print (without its mount) is 300 mm x 450 mm. (12" x 18")
3. The maximum size of the mount board may not exceed 400 mm x 550 mm.

PROGRAM : 2017

As you may notice from the program below we have managed to reclaim the *first WEDNESDAY* of every month, for the Black and White Interest Group. The *second WEDNESDAY* of the month is devoted to our Club Meetings (except on 7th August – which is a Monday – due to the fact that Wed. 9th is a Public Holiday, and the Tuesday was already taken up by another group). Also, our Audio Visual meetings are going to take place every **SECOND** month, starting from January 2017 (viz. Jan, Mar, May, Jul, Sep, Nov) on the *last WEDNESDAY* of the month, at Irmel's home in De Boord, Stellenbosch, now starting at 7pm. Address and directions will be sent on request.

Regarding Club Meetings -your Committee has chosen the Set Subjects bearing mind the many facets of photography – macro, creative, abstract etc. which any member can tackle ... and we persuade you to 'tackle' these genres even though they may not be in your comfort zone. Don't be hesitant about entering your work ... Just Do It!

Please take particular note of the changes in the Program for 2017 ... in fact it might be a good idea to print a couple of copies for your car, diary and the fridge!

We are planning to hold **two workshops** during the year, details of which will be advertised as soon as the programs are completed.

<u>PROGRAM 2017</u>		
Wed.3 rd May	B&W	'Mystery' * 7.30pm
Wed.10 th May	Club Competition	'Mystery'** 7.30pm
Wed.31 st May	Audio Visual	At Irmel's 7pm Set Subject: 'A Landscape Av using a few third images'
Wed.7 th June	B&W	'Street Photography' * 7.30pm
Wed.14 th June	Review	*** 7.30pm
Wed.5 th July	B&W	'The Drama of Light'* 7.30pm
Wed.12 th July	Club Meeting	'The Drama of Light'** 7.30pm
Wed.26 th July	Audio Visual	At Irmel's 7pm
Wed.2 nd August	B&W	'Interaction'* 7.30pm
MONDAY 7 th Aug	Club Meeting	'Interaction'** (Wed.9 th P.Hol. Library closed)
Wed.6 th September	B&W	'Emotion'* 7.30pm
Wed.13 th September	Club Meeting	'Emotion'** 7.30pm
Wed.27 th September	Audio Visual	At Irmel's 7.00pm
Wed.4 th October	B&W	'Ruins'* 7.30pm
Wed.11 th October	Review	***7.30pm
Wed.1 st November	B&W	'Illuminated' *7.30pm
Wed.8 th November	Club Meeting	'Illuminated' **7.30pm
Wed.29 th November	Audio Visual	At Irmel's 7pm
Wed.6 th December	B&W	'Waterfall'* 7.30pm
Wed.13 th December	Gala Night	Bring eats & drinks & glasses! 7.30pm

*B&W: Prints: 1 Set Subject (SS) + 2 Open, or 2 SS and 1 Open

*B&W: Projected Images: 1 SS + 2 Open, or 2 SS and 1 Open

**Prints: 1 Set Subject(SS) + 2 Open; or ... 2 SS + 1 Open

**Projected images: 1 SS + 2 Open; or ... 2 SS +1 Open

*** Review: 2 Prints and/or 2 projected images allowed, or 1 of either

REPORT ON REVIEW EVENING

The Review Evening ran extremely well – JJ van Heerden handled all images(and the floor) in a most excellent way, and there were many comments afterwards from members who had learned a lot about how they should crit their pictures themselves. A most productive meeting!

JUDGING AT HPS

At the Review Evening, Izak van Niekerk gave a presentation regarding a suggestion to ‘informalise’ our judging at our Competition Evenings. JJ ran the comments from the floor ... there was much discussion, in a most positive way.

It was decided to keep the judging system (ie. images being scored out of 30, with four judges in attendance) as it is at present; even though we regard ourselves as an ‘informal’ club, in this particular instance, members like to have a score assigned to your image, knowing full well that the judge is judging from a personal viewpoint.

Chris Herselmann has taken on the task of running a ‘Learn How To Judge’ workshop for our members, in the future. You will be kept up to date.

AUDIO VISUAL MEETINGS AT IRMEL’S HOME

Wed. 31st May (our meetings are now being held every 2nd month). Set subject is: ‘A Landscape AV using a few third images’

REPORT ON OUTING: MACASSAR

Several members made it out to this rather forsaken, but interesting, venue ... the weather was not really that kind however. Those folk who were out there, please bring three images to the Club Meeting on 10th May, to share with us all.

‘MY PORTFOLIO’



1. Each participant must enter five prints – these prints should depict any genre(s) the photographer enjoys doing.
2. The five prints should be sized as follows: PRINT SIZES FOR HPS (and for Interclub)
 - ❖ The *minimum* size of a print (without its mount) is 150mm x 200mm. (6" x 8")
 - ❖ The *maximum* size of a print (without its mount) is 300mm x 450mm. (12" x 18")
 - ❖ The maximum size of the mount board may not exceed 400mm x 550mm.
3. Only **NEW** work, made during 2017, and which has not yet been shown at HPS meetings, may be entered. Requests have been made to include images made in 2016 ... due to a majority vote from several (not all) Committee members, this is now acceptable - but please bear in mind that your images should not have been shown at HPS before. My personal take is that if you made great images in 2016, you most probably would have shown them by now! There is plenty of time (until September) to make five good images, I think!!! (Guess who votes for 2017 pics only!)
4. Three independent judges will be asked to judge each portfolio.
5. Picture Works, Stellenbosch, run by JJ van Heerden, is offering a discount on all prints being made for this project.
6. Picture Works will be awarding a prize of a stretched canvas to the winner.
7. Roxanno's Framing will be asked to offer a discount on all framing required for this project. Roxanno's replied that they always give good prices (!) (and have offered to sponsor a prize for our Interclub...)
8. It is not imperative that you use the above two suppliers – you may certainly use your own preferred printers and framers, should you so wish. Prints should be mounted, and include a backing board.
9. All prints will be required to be brought to the B&W Meeting on Wednesday **6th September**, or, may be dropped off at Picture Works

before 6th September, after which they will be judged during that following week.

10. The showing of 'My Portfolio' will take place at the HPS Meeting on Wednesday 13th September 2017.
11. HPS would like to obtain each photographer's permission to keep these prints aside, for inclusion in the HPS selection of work for Interclub 2017.
12. So far, we have had affirmative replies from the following members: Nettie, Michele, Paddy, Izak, Irmel, JJ, David, Chris, Denise W, Mark, Fiona, Hilldidge, Marguerite, Sonja, Steve T. Please let me know asap if you would like to be added to this list ... Bernard? Peter D? Neels? Danie? anyone else?

Any queries: contact Nettie 082 5763278 or nettie28@iafrica.com

INTERCLUB 2017 Friday 3rd November 2017

As you know, HPS will be hosting Interclub 2017. The following clubs in the Western Cape will be taking part:

Cape Town, Creative, Durbanville, Fish Hoek, Helderberg, Hermanus, Paarl, Swartland, Tafelberg, Tygerberg (10 in all)

Members will be kept in the loop as to arrangements as we go along.

URGENT ATTENTIONreqd: Not too late to enter!!!



WORKSHOP

AUS, NAMIBIA WORKSHOP with JJ van Heerden and Wicus Leeuwner



May21 2017 Enquire: Tanya at stejp@telkomsa.net

WORKSHOP WITH FREEMAN PATTERSON

There are still some openings on the workshop that Charles Needle and I will be conducting at Monet's Garden, Giverny, France, September 3-9, 2017.

For more information and to register:

[http://www.charlesneedlephoto.com/2017 Monet wkshp with Freeman flyer and booking form.pdf](http://www.charlesneedlephoto.com/2017_Monet_wkshp_with_Freeman_flyer_and_booking_form.pdf) Charles will reply to your application or enquiry right away.

Good wishes, FREEMAN

STEVE'S CORNER is taking a break this month, but DO check our Steve's 'Photo Links' on our webpage <http://helderbergphoto.com>

FROM LIGHT STALKING

DO YOUR EDITING SKILLS NEED A TWEAK?

Getting this right can be a photography game changer and some photographers will be shouting at their screen saying "if you can't learn to get in right in camera....." - you know the rest.

Post processing is a need-to-do process in photography and although *some* people believe it's "manipulating" or "faking" your photographs, more often than not it's just bringing out the **real colors** and **details** that are hidden in the image.

While post processing, it's important to have a **logical workflow** that you work by to create the final image. Here's a simple workflow to get you started.

But before we do, this email of inspiring tips was brought to you by [Fundamental Editing](#) - Learn the steps taken by a pro in this easy-to-follow guide,



Fundamental Editing Skills

Straighten and Crop the Image

Straighten the image if required to correct horizons in landscapes. **Crop the image** to get the right composition. For architectural images, get the horizontals and verticals corrected before cropping and straightening.

Remove Sensor dust

Dust and other particles on the sensor become visible at a smaller aperture and in the brighter regions of the image. Use the **spot healing brush** or the spot removal tool to get rid of those distracting bits.

Adjust Exposure and Contrast

Use the **Levels adjustment** and **Brightness/Contrast tools** to get the correct exposure and contrast. Keep your eyes on the histogram.

Adjust Shadows and Highlights

Adjusting **shadows and highlights** helps you work with the dark and bright regions of the images effectively. Increasing shadows lightens up very dark regions and reducing highlights helps you darken very bright regions of the image.

Adjusting the Clarity

The **clarity tool** adds contrast to the mid-range tones and sharpens the image without adding noise.

Saturation and Vibrance

Use the **saturation and vibrance tools** only if required. Increase the vibrance a bit and if not happy, pull up the saturation slider a bit.

Note: Try using the **HSL panels** for beautiful colors in your images.

Sharpen if Required and Remove Noise

If your image has noise, remove it using the noise reduction tool that is located in the sharpening tab.

While sharpening, drag the masking slider while holding down the alt key (for Lightroom) or option + command key (for Camera RAW) till you see areas that need to be sharpened.

This lets you selectively sharpen regions in the image.

This **guide** by Photzy will allow you to learn the steps taken by a pro to produce amazing results in their photography, every time - learn [Fundamental Editing](#).

See you in a week, 'til then, it's goodbye from the **Lightstalking Team!**
68a Brocks Lane, Newtown, NSW 2042, AUSTRALIA

REVIEW OF THE HPS NEWSLETTER

While we have reviewed our judging system, I thought we may as well review our Newsletter too. If you have the time and inclination please let me know if you think the Newsletter is too long? Does it take too much time to read? Because of its length, I guess not many people print it out. Does it have enough information? Would you like to see it in a more 'creative' format? (my computer knowledge stops at Word, so I'm afraid it is what it is!) However, I have been offered lessons in making the Newsletter look more exciting – just let me know!

Nettie

THE LAST WORD



‘Watch your back!’ (or get someone else to – and get them to warn you!)

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