

CENTENARY ISSUE

1890 1990



INCORPORATING THE 1990 PSSA CONGRESS



Historic congress held

THE Cape Town Photographic Society will be 100 years old in October and as part of the Centenary Celebrations is hosting the Photographic Society of Southern Africa Congress at the Holiday Inn, Eastern Boulevard, from October 9 — 13.

People interested in photography are welcome to attend. There is a full programme of lectures and outings and full-time registration costs R95.

Wednesday, October 10, the public holiday, has been designed as an all-day photographic seminar, which includes lunch at the Holiday Inn and will be well worth attending at a fee of R35 for the day.

Included in the programme is a lecture by Dr Brian Most (FRPS), a visitor from the Royal Photographic Society of Great Britain. There will be excellent programmes presented each evening at 8pm. The entrance fee is R5.

Of particular interest to the public will be the multi-projector Audiovisual Spectacular by world-renowned Barrie Wilkins (FPSSA, FRPS, FPSA) on Friday October 12 at 8pm — a show not to be missed.

Details of this photographic happening can be obtained by telephoning 52 1715 or 531 5459 or from Cameraland, in Lomb Street or in Claremont, where tickets will be available.

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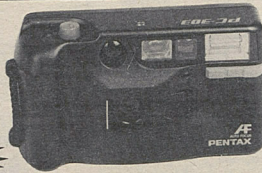
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Cape Town Photographic Society

100 YEARS: A SHORT HISTORY

BY ROY JOHANNESSON Hon FPSSA
 OCTOBER 30, 1890 was a significant date in the history of the Cape Town Photographic Society. On that date, the inaugural meeting took place at the St George's school in Wale Street.

Dr David Gill LLD, FRPS, Astronomer Royal, was elected honorary president and Mr BA Lewis, secretary and treasurer. The minutes of this meeting were signed by C Roy Woods on Tuesday, November 11, 1890. And so the Cape Town Photographic Club was founded.

It is interesting to note the change of name from Club to Society which took place between October 1903 and August 1904. It is also interesting to note that in 1905 the words "Affiliated with the Royal Photographic Society of Great Britain" appear on Society documents.

One of the founder members of the Society, EH Allis, "invented" astronomical photography. He took the first photograph of a star in 1882 under the supervision of David Gill by strapping a camera to a telescope.

Many famous names in photography have been members of the CTPS: Arthur Elliot, Rudolf Marloth, Edward Roworth, Sir FW Smith and A Van Reenen van Oudtshoorn, to name a few.

Marloth's enthusiasm for mountaineering led, with others, to the founding of the Mountain Club of South Africa. The original plates of the flora of South Africa, a large collection of photographic negatives and a collection of minerals were presented to the University of Stellenbosch.

A Van Reenen van Oudtshoorn, who was described by an American writer as "the world's greatest exponent of land and seascape photography", was also president of the CTPS.

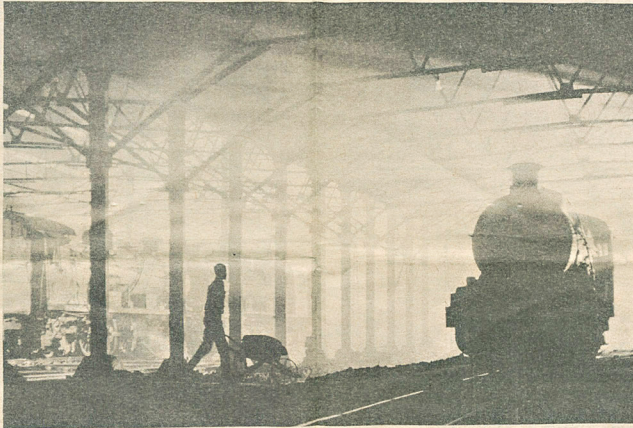
The Photographic Society of



1936: Thatched cottages in Kirstenbosch Village which were demolished when Bishop's Court Estate was developed. Photograph by Ray Ryan, a longstanding member of the CT Photographic Society, author of a number of published works and still an active photographer.



November 1891: Members of the Cape Town Photographic Club, (sitting) CR Woods, GC van Bonde, Sir David Gill, DC Andrew, EH Allis and (standing) F Ayers, A Gracie, RJ Hydenberg, C Martin, EJ Steer, W Glennie, H Coper, G Higgin, P Ashenden, PG Wright, Wighall, LJ Ferry, GN Lindrup, N Cairncross, RT Pett, HW Schonegevel, BA Lewis and C Hayne.



'In the engine sheds', a photograph by Ted Dickinson, captures the nostalgia of bygone years.

Southern Africa came into being in 1953 so as to form a parent body of all the photographic clubs and societies in Southern Africa, the first president being Rev Dr Kin Bensusan.

The journal of PSSA was known as Camera News, edited by Eric Verste, Hon FPSSA, FRPS, assisted by Mr T Stafford Smith, Robert Bell and Denis Sprenger. They were all members of the Council of the Cape Town Photographic Society.

The Society met at a number of venues over the past 100 years. The first meetings in 1890 took place in Kamp's Café and then the Old Town House, Greenmarket Square. In April 1891 the members moved to "Dix's Café" in Shortmarket Street. Subsequent meetings took place at the Thatched Tavern, YMCA building classrooms in Long Street, Medical House in Wale Street, Mountain Club

Rooms in Strand Street, the St George's Cathedral Hall in Queen Victoria Street and finally at 28 Jarvis Street, Cape Town, an old Baptist Church building built in 1893 which the Society purchased in July 1969 — a momentous date in the history of the Society. At last a permanent home! After extensive alterations and additions, occupation was taken in 1976.

The Society continues to meet on Wednesday evenings at 28 Jarvis Street and is active in both print and slide photography. Members are encouraged to actively participate in whatever branch of photography interests them most.

The next century will see great changes in photography as electronic images become more and more in evidence and it is anticipated that the Cape Town Photographic Society will adapt to the changing scene.

PSSA Congress programme

TUE OCTOBER 9
 1400 - 1630 registration
 1700 busses leave for civic centre
 1730 mayoral reception and official opening
 2000 Jabula interclub slide challenge

WED OCTOBER 10
 0845 - 0900 Welcome!
 0900 - 0940 Landscapes by Brian Most (FRPS)
 0945 - 1025 Paintings and Photographs by Erik Laubscher (tea)
 1100 - 1140 Table Top Photography by Beth Grundlingh (AFSSA)
 1145 - 1205 Nature Conservation and the Photographer by Dr Douglas Hey (lunch at the Holiday Inn)
 1400 - 1440 The Desert Areas by Dr Johan Kloppers (FPSSA) (tea)
 1445 - 1525 Equestrian and Experiments by H Mansson (AFSSA) (tea)
 1600 - 1640 Ideas and Images by Roy Johannesson (Hon FPSSA)
 1645 - 1725 This and That by Ted Dickinson (Hon FPSSA)

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 1645 - 1725 This and That by Ted Dickinson (Hon FPSSA)

2000 PSSA Fellows and Associates Show: Winning audio-visual entries
THURS OCTOBER 11
 0900 - 0945 Silver Images and Golden Years by Rev Dr AD Bensusan (Hon FRPS FPSSA) (tea)
 1015 Busses leave for Ysterplaat Air Force Base, visit to museum and lunch. Venue for group photograph with Shackleton and Table Mountain in background.
 1430 - 1510 The World of Birds - Opportunity in Focus by Walter Mangold (tea)

1545 PSSA Annual General Meeting and Forum, followed by Board of Director's meeting
 2000 Mood and Colour in Landscape by Dr Brian Most (FRPS)
 Helderberg Photographic Society Audio-visual presentation

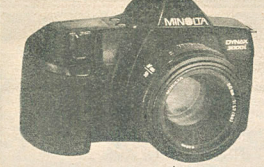
1000 - 1040 Satour award-winning film: South Africa - Animal Land (tea)
 1115 Busses leave for Docks for tour of Mitchell's Breweries and lunch at Ferryman's restaurant
 1415 A Visit to the Cape Town Photographic Society's premises for afternoon tea and the viewing of the exhibition: 100 Years Photo and Camera Show
 1900 - 2000 Fellows and Associates get together
 2000 Honours and Awards banquet

FRI OCTOBER 12
 0800 Busses leave for all day outing on the wine route, with wine tasting and lunch
 2000 The Barrie Wilkens Audio-Visual Spectacular
SAT OCTOBER 13
 0900 - 1000 Commercial video demonstration



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Cape Town Photographic Society turns 100

Mr Pieter Baartman, president of the Photographic Society, holds a stereo camera and a miniature camera from the Society's museum. Other cameras seen here are: a plate camera with hand-operated shutter, a Zeiss Ikon plate camera, a Kodak pocket camera, and a "Magic Lantern" slide plate projector using an oil lamp.

Picture: BERNARD PEREZ, Argus. Advertisers

THE Cape Town Photographic Society celebrates its 100th birthday this year, writes Ted Dickinson, well-known photographer and longstanding member of the Society.

To commemorate its first meeting held in October 1890 — minutes of which are still in existence — the society is arranging a four day photographic congress from October 10 — 14. Talks will be given by well-known naturalists, artists and photographers, including Dr Douglas Hay, Erik Laubscher, Dr Ken Bensusan, after whom the Photographic Museum in Johannesburg is named, and Barry Wilkins, ranked number one in America for his audiovisual presentations. Also in the programme will be a Wine Route tour and photographic visits to the Air Force base at Ysterplaat and

Cape Town docks.

In addition, the Society is arranging its "One Hundred Years of Photos and Cameras" exhibition, comprising photographs from their archives and present day members and memorabilia such as an old cine projector, operated by crank handle, shown recently on television.

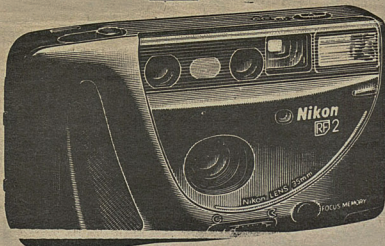
Fortunately the Society has space for these museum items, having purchased its "House", an old chapel in Jarvis Street, some years ago. The house was converted into a Photographic Centre.

Photographers who would like to learn more about the centre, the congress or the Photographic Society, contact Ted Dickinson at tel 761 3918.

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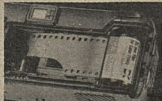
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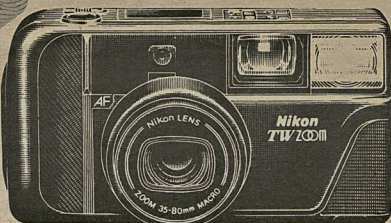
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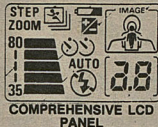
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