

Chapter 11

The class of 1940-1979

The 40 years from before WW II to the encroachment on time of the TV and internet era, was a period of camaraderie and prosperity for CTPS. Among the members of the period 1940-1979 were some of the biggest names in the history of CTPS, who not only made a huge contribution to building the society, but to promoting photography in Southern Africa



An historic get-together in 1960 by CTPS Honorary Life Members Robert Page (vice-president), Eric Vertue, Don McKellar (vice-president) and Terence Stafford-Smith (president), who shared a drink in the Thatched Tavern pub on Greenmarket Square where the idea for the establishment of CTPS was discussed by Cairncross and Lewis in 1890.



Above: Eric Vertue, wearing a black beret as 'badge of honour' and Robert Page, CTPS president in 1961, '62 and '66, enjoying a meal during a CTPS outing.

Left: One of Robert Bell's favourite photographs is this image 'Bastions of Nature', which he discussed in one of the earliest issues of the PSSA publication Camera News, in which he wrote a regular column.

Opposite page: Bill Vye receives the Lentin trophy from the wife of president Brian Greener (right) in 1963. Brian is wearing the president's colarette donated by Eric Vertue when Brian took over from him as president. This image was first published in the CTPS newsletter The Latent Image in 1963.

Past Honorary Life Members

1947	HC Starke	1963	Horace Lawley	1981	Chesney James
1951	Robert Bell	1967	Ken Halliday	1983	Dick Pearce
1954	Brian Greener	1971	Ted Dickinson	1988	Ted Wilson
1955	H.A.G. French	1974	W.G. Vye	1990	Raymonde Johannesson
1955	Eric Vertue	1975	Vera Vertue	1991	Fred Harris
1961	Terence Stafford Smith	1976	Elizabeth Starke	1992	Pieter Baartmann
		1978	Tita Wilson	1997	Roy Millington
		1978	Roy Johannesson		

The 40-year period between the start of WW II up to the 1980's when South Africans became TV-watching couch potatoes could be described as the *golden era* of CTPS.

The minutes recording the many activities during the pre-TV and -internet period paint a picture of a gathering of very energetic friends, sharing common interests. Without digital stimulation, people relied on each other for entertainment and companionship and they found this by belonging to a society like CTPS.

The members of this era did many things together: they went on regular outings, and engaged in diverse interests through various sub-committees, like the building committee, (tasked with finding a home, see chapter 7), the cine committee, *Survey Group*, *Adventure Group* and various other groupings we would nowadays consider Special Interest Groups. These groups met in addition to the evenings when prints and slides were shown, which were considered to be core activities.

A sense of camaraderie is evident from the records of the activities and services performed. In 1970 the council minutes, for example, record the names of the mem-

bers who took turns as receptionist, tea members, duty members, etc. at the different weekly meetings. There were also librarians who facilitated the lending of the various journals from British and American societies CTPS subscribed to, as well as the new photographic books they bought.

They also had fun, for example, with very social events like the *Mystery evenings* at Suikerbossie restaurant, where members followed clues to solve a puzzle.

And in between all that they managed to print and publish a syllabus of activities every month, as well as *The Latent Image*, a printed bi-monthly newsletter, that preceded *Cape Camera*.

Not to forget one of the major achievements of this era: the fundraising and hard work to purchase and restore 28 Jarvis Street, which so dramatically changed our fortunes (see chapter 7).

Attendance numbers at meetings reflected the high member interest: according to the 1969/70 annual report on average 90 people attended the 17 lectures and demonstrations organised by the slide section, the 13 lectures and demonstrations of the cine section attracted an average of 58 members per meeting and an average of

62 members attended combined meetings of prints and slides, or meetings with other clubs.

In 1970 CTPS had 330 members, comprising of Honorary Life Members (see previous chapter), honorary members, life members (who bought membership with a lump sum), ordinary members and family members (not necessarily so interested in photography, but wanted to participate in the activities).

The trophies awarded at the end-of-year prize giving reflected the prominent names of the era. The trophies are now kept in storage, but the names are still preserved on certificates presented to category winners at the end of the year:

- Lawley Trophy: best monochrome prints (Horace Lawley)
 - Vertue Trophy: best colour print;
 - Lentin Trophy: best film made during year;
 - Herbert French Trophy: to encourage progress
 - Johannesson Trophy: best colour slide
 - Johannesson's Golden Apple award: service to cinematography
 - Millington Trophy: Portraiture
- The Adventure group, which encouraged



Right: Terence Stafford-Smith on an outing.



new forms of photography, also had a trophy and plaque and emblem.

At the awards ceremony members also received Five star badges and Certificates of Merit for their work during the year.

The Adventure group, which encouraged new forms of photography, also had a trophy, plaque and emblem.

Robert Bell, PSSA president (honoured 1951)

One of the oldest members of CTPS, Robert Bell joined the society just after WW I when WM Mathieson was rebuilding CTPS membership, reports Eric Vertue in his book *Cape Town Photographic Society 100*

Years, Vertue described him as A most helpful and accomplished friend.

He served as CTPS president from 1942 to 1944 and Bob, as his friends knew him, became president of the PSSA after the term of the first president Dr Kin Bensusan came to an end in 1956.

He was also one of the founding members of the PSSA, as he and Eric were the CTPS delegates to attend the first congress in Durban in 1954.

Bell was a regular contributor to the PSSA publication *Camera News*, edited by Eric, in which he shared his experience as an accomplished photographer, who was awarded an Associateship of the PSSA.

He was introduced to photography through an old box camera, 'the kind into which one loaded a dozen quarter plates, and with the operation of a lever they were dropped one at a time after each exposure,' he wrote.

'Care had to be taken not to jar or knock the camera, otherwise the whole box of tricks, both plates and sheaths, would become dislodged. Without the aid of a dark

Eric Vertue (honoured 1955), historian and inspiring enthusiast

ERIC VERTUE deserves the gratitude of CTPS members past, present and future, for recording the history of the society in a publication to celebrate the centenary in 1990, descriptively called *Cape Town Photographic Society 100 Years*.

His account of the activities through the decades not only gives a rare glimpse into how CTPS grew and evolved ... but also what we can learn from the past. Many of these memorable initiatives were inspired and driven by Eric and his wife Vera.

He joined CTPS in September 1936 and in 1987 celebrated his 50th year as member with a party organised by the council. During this time he was president nine times, and had served on council till the late 1980's — a period on which CTPS members can look back with pride and gratitude.

He was one of the founding members of the PSSA in 1954 and edited the society's first journal, *Camera News* — a high quality, informative publication.

Then PSSA president Dr. Kin Bensusan wrote as follows about the launch publication in April 1955: 'Let us hope that in our lifetimes we can look back on this first volume as a 'turning-point' or a 'Rallying point' for the unification of scattered interests of our National photography. The first dream has been the foundation of PSSA and the second one, this very Journal, which has been so successfully launched. Photographic history is being made'.

Of Eric he said: 'He has spent more time than seems possible to those who know



him well in trying to bring to reality that ideal of a vigorous interchange of ideas, a reasoned learning from others, and the chance for that cup of tea, which should be a part of the badge of one Photographic Society, at least, in this country. We could do with a hundred or so like him; we will certainly not find them, but it is worth trying'.

This glowing testimonial will, no doubt, be echoed by the CTPS members who are aware of the many ways in which the Vertues contributed to the society.

For example, in 1963 Eric inducted incoming president Brian Greener with a collarette he and his wife Vera had donated to the society in recognition of the 27

happy years they had spent as members. Sadly, this has gone missing.

Eric's interest in history and conservation was expressed in many ways. He was especially interested in photographing historical buildings and became leader of the CTPS *Survey Group*, which did much acclaimed work documenting historical West Coast farms.

Apart from being invited to join the National Monuments Council in 1968, he also served on the Tulbagh Restoration Committee, where he played an important part during the 1970's in restoring the old Drostdy after the earthquake. He was also a member of the Simon van der Stel foundation committee and served on the Table Mountain Preservation Board.

In 1973, Eric and CTPS member Ray Ryan published a book called *Cape Homesteads*, which is also considered to be *Africana*.

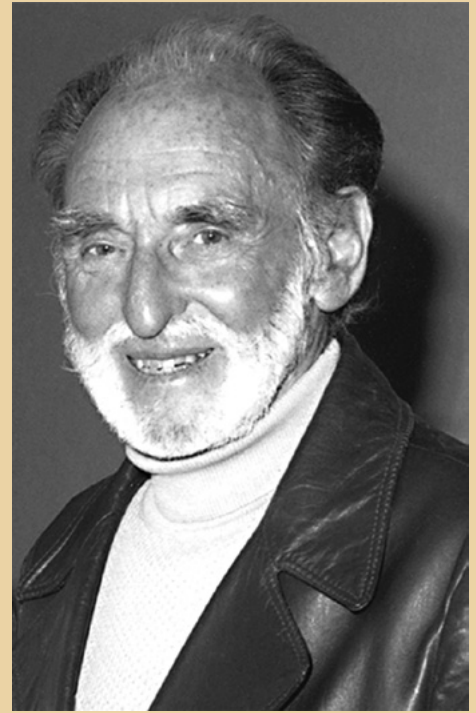
Eric was assistant general manager of The South African Permanent Building Society and in 1976 they, in collaboration with the Old Mutual, published *Travels with Eric Vertue*, which is described as an excellent record of the rural Western Cape, covering informal architecture as well as many prominent Cape Dutch houses. It was also published in Afrikaans as *Op reis met Eric Vertue*.

Eric was awarded an Associateship of the PSSA (APSSA) as well as the Royal Photographic Society (ARPS) for his photographic work. He was made an Honorary Life Member of CTPS in 1955.



This photo of a Canberra Bomber (left) by Ted Dickinson (right) demonstrates his exceptional skill as an aerial photographer. The image was first published in Com-mando magazine.

Right: Ted Dickinson was photographed by Antenie Carstens.



Ted Dickinson (honoured 1971), aerial expert and honours panel chair

TED DICKINSON was another CTPS member who played a major role in South African photography, for example, as a former PSSA president and head of the PSSA honours selection panel.

Ted was a member of CTPS for 30 years and was elected president in 1990, reports **Pat Scott**.

He had joined the RAF during WW II, and was an accomplished aerial photographer. He was reported as saying that one of his greatest thrills was when the State President pinned a Southern Cross medal on his SAAF jacket for his services as a specialist photographer in Korea.

He clearly was most innovative as a photographer as he used to add water colours to his black and white photos, and says it took PSSA some time before they eventually accepted them in the *Specialist* ratings.

He not only earned a Fellowship and

Honorary Fellowship of the PSSA, but was also awarded an Associateship for his panel by the Royal Photographic Society and an Associateship of the Institute of British Photographers. The latter panel of prints contained many landscapes, which was one of his favourite genres

He also wrote a column for the *Rand Daily Mail's Camera Page*, wrote for *The Cape Argus*, contributed to various magazines and talked about photography on the SABC's *Women's World* programme.

Dickinson also lectured at the Universities of Stellenbosch and Cape Town and at the Ruth Prowse School of Art.

The PSSA acknowledged his expertise by making him head of the panel of judges that decided if submissions qualified for honours.

Apart from CTPS in 1971, six other PSSA affiliated clubs awarded him Honorary Life

Membership.

Dickinson had come to South Africa for training as a member of the Royal Air Force after WW II. He permanently joined the South African Air Force and went to the Central Photo Establishment at Swartkops, Pretoria. This was where he learnt the skill of aerial photography.

He eventually became an expert on various kinds of aerial photography, from surveys to publicity photographs.

He also joined the Johannesburg Camera Club, where he played a leading role.

In the early 1950's his SAAF squadron was sent to Korea and Japan, where the many photographs he took of Korean people were later exhibited.

Apart from his photographic expertise, CTPS members remember him as a true gentleman who was always happy to share his knowledge.

room it was impossible to rectify the upset.

'Came the time of joining the Cape Town Photographic Society, and I considered something better by way of a camera. The choice fell on a quarter plate Sanderson, fitted with a Zeiss Tessar 4.5 lens. The choice has never been regretted; the old Sanderson is still in use and very much in favour.'

As manager of the Salvation Army Printing Company, Citadel Press, Bell also produced the first printed syllabus for CTPS, covering the activities and topics for the year.

He was especially keen on landscape photography and in the PSSA publication *Camera News* of April 1955 Bell described why

the image *Nature's Bastions* (see p72) was his favourite. *'That Nature's Bastions was shot on this particular day was a case of the pure luck which sometimes favours the photographer'*, he wrote in the publication.

'Picture a rock in mid-stream, just sufficient space room to accommodate the tripod; the worker trying to secure a perch in between; and the focusing cloth (by accident) dropping into the water. Imagine the frantic grab to regain the cloth.'

'In the medley of things, the camera case with slides also took a plunge. Fortunately, the launching was upright and since it is a well-sewn case, it was retrieved before any

water had entered the hold.

'I like Nature's Bastions mainly, I think, because of the feeling of strength and majesty in the mountain scene captured. In place of the usual tree or cottage, there is the feature of the two pinnacle-cliffs arranged on the strong third, lines lead in from both sides of the arrangement into the picture space. Yes, it is one I like.'

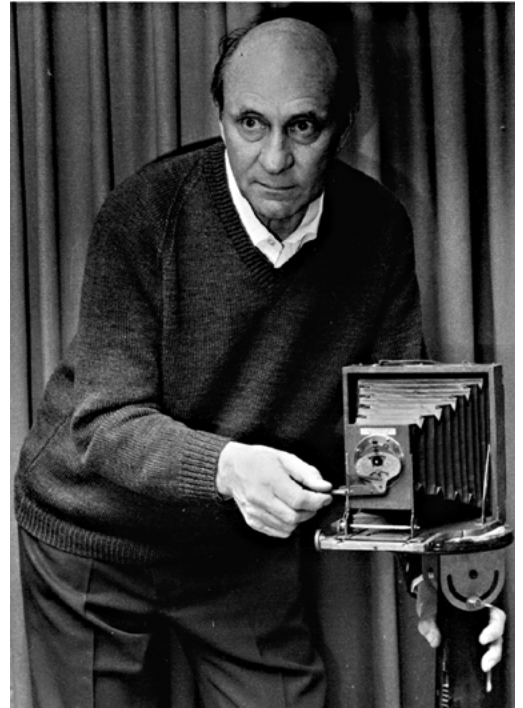
Treasurer Brian Greener (1954)

Brian Greener joined CTPS in the early 1950's and from 1957 until his death in 2000 the finances of the society was mainly managed by him as honorary treasurer, reports **Pat Scott**.



Left: Ted Dickinson talking to Teddy and Tita Wilson — the first female president — at the 1974 Cape of Good Hope salon exhibition. The photo was published in the April-May 1974 edition of the PSSA publication News and Views.

Right: Pieter Baartmann, CTPS president during the centenary year in 1990, with a crank handle projector, one of the historical cameras in the CTPS collection. This photo was published in a supplement in The Argus in October 1990, which covered the CTPS anniversary celebrations. Baartmann was awarded an Honorary Life Membership of CTPS in 1992. He was again elected president in 1993 and (reluctantly) edited Cape Camera during the early 1990's, until Sibyl Morris became a very able editor in 1996.



Left: Teddy Wilson, Ken Halliday, Roy Johannesson, Dick Pearce, Ingrid and Raymonde Johanneson at the opening of the Cape of Good Hope salon exhibition in 1974.

Right: Daphne Starling, a council member in the 1990's, and Dick Pearce, who was made an Honorary Life Member in 1983. This photo was published in the April-May 1974 PSSA publication News and Views.



This included the period when the building fund was started, a building purchased and the tenants' rent had to be administered — in other words, when CTPS' fortunes took a decided turn for the better.

Apart from serving as treasurer for about 40 years, Brian also served as president in 1963-64 and 1967.

In addition, he served on council in various other capacities, including as secretary and vice-president and as representative for the cine section, where his main photographic interest lay.

He was made an Honorary Life Member of CTPS in 1954.

Long-serving Staffie (1961)

Terence Trafford-Smith or Staffie, as he was known to members, was elected an Honorary Life Member of CTPS in 1961.

He became a CTPS member in 1936 when the Miniature Camera Club, to which he belonged, merged with CTPS. He served as president in 1955-56, 1959-1960 and again in 1971 and served on council and various committees for many years, among them as secretary for most of the 1940s.

In 1987 the society honoured him and Eric Vertue with a party to celebrate their 50 years as members.

'A very competent artist, print and slide photographer as well as a cinematographer of great talent,' Roy Johannesson described him in 1990.

Johannesson and Staffie were also active members of the Bird Club of South Africa, where they impressed members with cine films of birds.

Printer Horace Lawley (1963)

CTPS president in 1949 and 1950, Horace Lawley played a very active role in the society in various capacities. For example, as MD of Samuel Griffiths & Co (formerly the Carmelite Press), he printed the CTPS



CREATE AN IMAGE THAT IS TECHNICALLY PERFECT AND VISUALLY INSPIRING.

THE BOTTOM LINE IN COMPETITION PHOTOGRAPHY IS SIMPLICITY.

DO NOT PUT ANYTHING MORE IN THE FRAME THAN IS ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY.

REMEMBER: EVERY PICTURE SHOULD MAKE ONE, AND ONLY ONE, STATEMENT. ANYTHING THAT DOES NOT SUPPORT THE IDEA DETRACTS FROM THE IDEA.

IMPACT - AN EMOTIONAL RESPONSE

COMPOSITION - PRESENTATION OF IMAGE ARRANGEMENT OF THE ELEMENTS OF DESIGN.

TECHNIQUE - USE OF LIGHT, EXPOSURE, APERTURE etc.

INTEREST - VIEWER QUICKLY BORED! VIEWER SEE NEW EXPERIENCE

Above: Prize-winning photographer Jeanette du Toit cherishes the advice Roy Johannesson wrote for her in August 1998 when she was preparing her APSSA panel.

Left: One of the educational films made by Roy Johannesson, *Die Eerste Jaar op Skool*, was showed at Teachers' Training Colleges.

Roy Johannesson (1978) a giant amongst legendary figures

ROY JOHANNESON stands out as a giant amongst the many legendary former members that helped shape CTPS. The numerous publications, letters and council minutes he kept bear witness to a man with a passion for photography, the society and mentoring young talent, who for more than 50 years worked tirelessly in many capacities for the benefit of others.

His foresight to keep so many programmes, newspaper clippings, photos, articles and notes about CTPS, was a wonderful source of material for this book.

His influence was felt over many decades, including the 1990's, when some of the current members were youngsters who appreciated his guidance and encouragement.

Everybody clearly had the highest regard for Roy and his generosity in sharing his knowledge. One of our current top photographers, Jeanette du Toit credits Roy's guidance and friendship as the biggest influence in her photographic development. Shortly after she joined CTPS at the end of 1997, Roy's succinct comments as a judge made her realise that this was a man she could learn much from.

Armed with a gift basket of fruit and some of her images, Jeanette knocked on his door with some trepidation, asking if he would mind looking at her images. For the next 4½ years Roy would critically evaluate her slides — discarding the unworthy one's in a cake tin — and teach her how to recognise and take excellent photos. With the result that Jeanette was winning salon acceptances and competitions within a year of joining.

After he passed away in May 2002, aged 76, Sibyl Morris devoted the July/August issue of *Cape Camera* to his memory. 'Roy will always have a special place in our hearts for his gentle humour and his unflinching cheerfulness, for his love of nature and photography, and for his willingness to share his love and skill with others', she wrote.

Like anybody who feels strongly about issues, his views sometimes clashed with those of others. As Sibyl wrote: 'For 51

years he has been part of our society, encouraging others, contributing his own work, evaluating most skilfully and helpfully, stirring the pot when he thought it necessary, and keeping a proprietorial eye on all our doings'. When he celebrated his 50th year as member, CTPS gave Roy a wooden spoon, because he was always stirring.

"Congratulations!" was his favourite form of greeting, Sibyl remembers, and it was always amusing to watch the disconcerted expressions of newcomers who didn't know him when he greeted them in this way.

Few CTPS members have left such an impressive legacy as Roy. "In my position as editor of *Cape Camera*, he was the one person whom I could count on to phone me without fail as soon as the latest *Cape Camera* arrived in his letterbox, to say 'The latest newsletter is great! Congratulations!'" Sibyl recounts.

In the same issue his daughter Ingrid wrote about her father, who became a photographer in 1936 when he bought his first Zeiss Icon Baby box camera. In 1949, while working as a sound engineer for the SABC, he was invited by Bert Fisher, manager of MGM in Cape Town, to demonstrate film and sound synchronisation at a CTPS meeting — and joined the society two years later, where he participated in the cine section as a movie maker.

'He met the late Terence Stafford Smith, who taught him all he knew about movie making and photographic art', Ingrid wrote. Roy also had a long association with the PSSA, who gave him a medal for service after he served as president in 1975/76, elected him an Honorary Fellow in 1978 and in 1990 gave him the prestigious PSSA President's Award.

Roy was awarded an Associateship in colour slides, cine (motion pictures) and published works, as well as two Fellowships — in colour slides and for having three Associates.

His wife, Raymonde, was also an exceptional photographer who was awarded a Fellowship of the Royal Photographic Society for a panel of nature slides in 1987

— among her many accolades. She was made an Honorary Life Member in 1990.

'What began as a hobby turned into a career when he (Roy) found himself employed as a photographic consultant at Shaps Cameraland', wrote Ingrid. 'I'll never forget the day when Dad announced that he had sold his hardchrome engineering business at 92 Wale Street, and that he was retiring ... at 40! It wasn't long before he was known as Professor Johannesson, the nutty guy at Cameraland!'

Roy was first elected to the CTPS council in 1955, four years after he joined, and from then on made an indelible impression, among others, as president (1969-70) and chairman of the property committee when the building in Jarvis Street was bought. In 1978 CTPS made him an Honorary Life Member.

'It always gave him great pleasure to share the art of photography with others', Ingrid wrote. He did this in the form of exhibitions, photo schools and workshops, as well as written articles.

One of the educational films he made for Caltex, *Die Eerste Jaar op Skool* was used at teachers' training colleges. The exhibition of Roy's Cibachrome prints in The Shell Gallery in the 70's was the first all-colour exhibition of photographs in Cape Town.

He taught at the Cameraland Photo School, which opened in 1972, and promoted CTPS by writing numerous articles for *The Argus*.

Ingrid remembers her father as an extremely generous person and an optimist who found something good in any bad situation, or believed: *just leave it alone to get on with being bad without him!*

To commemorate his 50-year membership of CTPS in 2001, Roy introduced the *Golden Apple Award for Service to Photography* in the Western Cape, first awarded to Sibyl Morris. After a hiatus of several years the award was re-introduced by the Western Cape Photographic Forum in 2019 and the recipients were CTPS members Nicol and Trudi du Toit.



The image of this CTPS outing is unfortunately not dated nor is the grain farm visited by members identified. Many life members went on this outing. Prominent members who can be identified are: Ted Wilson (4th from left), Daphne Starling (next member after the tractor driver), Roy Johannesson (three people down with hat on), Roy Millington (to the right of the boy), Dick Pearce (back row next to baby), Raymonde Johannesson (fourth person to the right of him, back row), Arnold Castle (next to her) Annette Kellerman (fifth from the right in the back row), Eric Vertue (standing in the first row on the right wearing shorts and the black beret that only a select group of members could wear), Tita Wilson (sitting in front fourth from the left) and Nan Munro (next to her).

monthly syllabus at a very reasonable price.

'A dynamic speaker and excellent worker, never hesitant in expressing his point of view, whether it was popular or not,' Eric Vertue described him. 'An excellent print worker, particularly of intimate items.'

He was made an Honorary Life Member of CTPS in 1963.

Bill Vye, cinematographer (1974)

William (Bill) Vye served on the CTPS council for almost as long as he was a CTPS member, more specifically on the Cine Committee.

As a prolific and accomplished cine 8 photographer, he specialised in travel documentaries. Bill was made an Honorary Life Member in 1974.

His wife, Olive, was also very active in all CTPS activities.

Vera Vertue, secretary (1975)

Vera Vertue was CTPS secretary for 25 years during the '60's and '70's and became an Honorary Life Member in 1975.

Eric and Vera had met each other as youngsters in Kimberley, but lost contact, and reconnected and married after they met at a CTPS Mystery Evening.

Together the Vertues made invaluable contributions to the society in various capacities over many years. Vera also diligently typed the manuscripts of Eric's books.

Bessie (1976) and Chas Starke

Elizabeth (Bessie) Gray served as secretary of CTPS, but more importantly, as secretary of the Law Society, where she photocopied the CTPS monthly syllabus on their machine for many years.

She was assisted by Eric Vertue and Chas Starke, a senior partner of Starke-Ayres,

during their lunch times. They also helped her address the envelopes.

The only woman on council for many years, Vertue describes Bessie as 'a quiet and very efficient person who was admired by all'. She was made an honorary life member in 1976.

She later married Chas Starke, whom Vertue describes as 'a charming, elderly gentleman, always helpful, very practical and patient. A wise man on council.'

He had been made an Honorary Life Member of CTPS about 30 years previously, in 1947.

Tita (1978) and Ted Wilson (1988)

These two honorary life members played a major role in the society from the 1960's onwards. Tita was the first woman to be elected President — in 1976, 1979 and 1984 — during her 50 years as member. She was elected an Honorary Life Member of CTPS in 1978.

When Teddy passed away in 2002, aged 94, he was CTPS' oldest member. He had joined CTPS in 1960 and was elected an Honorary Life Member in 1988.

The Wilsons were both very involved in making cine films, complete with sound, and won the PSSA Ten Best Competition thirteen times.

Teddy won a bronze CTPS medal in 1981 and silver in 1986 in recognition for the work he had done in the cine section. Tita was the main cinematographer and Teddy did the editing and added sound.

Teddy also served as the CTPS librarian for many years during the 1980's.

When they were no longer able to attend meetings due to failing eyesight in 1996, they were thanked for their 'unbelievable photographic achievements and their dedi-

cation to the Society'.

Dick Pearce (1983), property finder

Richard Pearce, better known as Dick, was the unsung hero who found the premises at 28 Jarvis Street that turned the society's fortunes around at the end of the 1960's, and then, as property manager, devoted all his available time to maintaining and improving CTPS's new home.

He had joined CTPS in 1960 and after serving the society in various capacities and many years on council (e.g. librarian, property manager, etc.) was elected Honorary Life Member in 1983. He also served as President in 1973.

When Dick passed away in 2001 fellow life member Roy Johannesson described him as a 'real gentleman, a perfectionist in all that he did and a master of black-and-white photography'.

He obtained an APSSA in 1976 and was a CTPS member for 41 years.

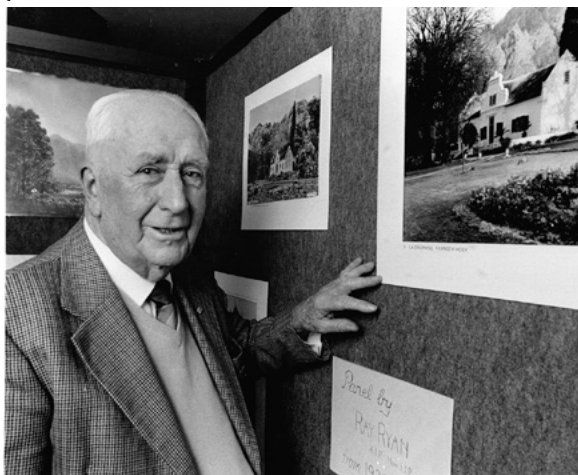
Inspiring Roy Millington (1997)

Roy Millington was a member of CTPS for 31 years (1966-1997), during which time he acted as a very knowledgeable judge at club and salon level.

Due to his services to CTPS and photography in general, he was made an Honorary Life Member of the society in 1997.

He was an accomplished photographer, specialising in portraits and dog pictures, who was awarded a Fellowship by the PSSA for his work.

When Millington addressed Honorary Life Member Antenie Carstens' school in Paarl, the quality of his work and passion for photography so inspired the young scholar that Antenie decided to become a photographer, because he wanted to emulate Millington.



Ray Ryan was not only a prolific club photographer, but also published several books, for example Cape Homesteads with Eric Vertue and Ghoema and Glitter on the Minstrel Carnival.



The 1975-76 cine committee members were (seated) Teddy and Tita Wilson, Brian Genn and Daphne Starling. Standing are Roy Johannesson, Joe van den Linden, Pieter Baartmann and Ken Halliday.

Council members

1940 - 1941: President: A.v.R van Oudtshoorn **Secretary:** T. Stafford Smith

1942 - 1944: President: Robert Bell **Secretary:** T. Stafford Smith

1945: President: Eric Vertue **Secretary:** T. Stafford Smith

1946: President: Eric Vertue **Secretary:** DK Dose

1947: President: Fred Harris **Secretary:** WS Lee

1948: President: Fred Harris **Secretary:** PJ Botha

1949 - 1950: President: Horace Lawley **Secretary:** OSJ Castleman

1951: President: Bertram Fischer **Secretary:** OSJ Castleman

1952: President: Bertram Fischer **Secretary:** MC Heginbotham

1953: President: Robert Bell **Secretary:** MC Heginbotham

1954: President: Robert Bell **Secretary:** MC Schirach

1955: President: T. Stafford Smith **Secretary:** Magda Sprenger

1956: President: T. Stafford Smith **Secretary:** Denis Sprenger

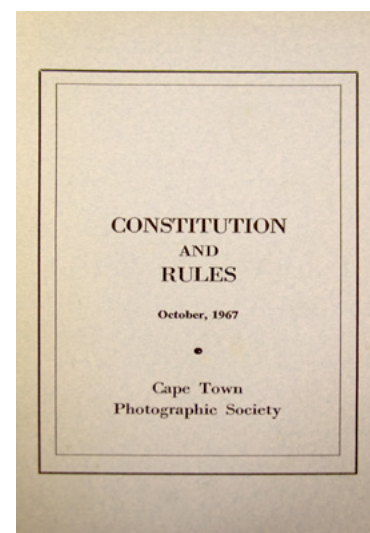
1957 - 1958: President: Eric Vertue **Treasurer:** Brian Greener **Secretary:** Ralph Taylor **Other members:** Brian Greener, Bill Vye, Terence Stafford: Smith, Scottie Scott, Horace Lawley, Sid Burley, John Hagens

1959: President: Terence Stafford: Smith **Vice-President:** Robert Page/ Don McKellar **Secretary:** MJ Louwrens **Other members:** Eric Vertue

1960: President: Terence Stafford: Smith **Treasurer:** Gilbert Whiteing **Secretary:** M Caradoc-Davies **Other members:** Brian Greener, Bill Vye, Eric Vertue.



CTPS president (1975) David Fisher and his wife Jean, and members Roy and Raymonde Johannesson, Dick Pearce and Mike Warner.



An amended CTPS Constitution was published in 1967.



The impressive number of Acceptances gained by Otto Dose's pinsharp life size print of frutang and candy cane shamrock (above) in salons across the world.

Apart from the legendary Honorary Life Members featured on the previous pages, many other members played a pivotal role during this period.

Sid Burley

A council member during the late 1950's, Sid Burley worked as a tailor for Scott's Outfitters. He was also a close friend of Chas Starke.

Eric Vertue describes Burley as very quiet and recounts that he 'invariably went on outings with only one dark slide loaded. While everybody was clicking madly he would set up his quarter plate camera on its tripod, get under the black cloth and stay there, moving position ever so gently. If it pleased him, he would make the exposure, which most times was the competition winner'. This 'one shot' would even win against photographers who finished

three spools of 36 exposures on an outing.

OSJ (Ossie) Castleman

Despite working very long hours, Ossie Castleman is remembered as a very conscientious secretary for CTPS. He worked in the catering division of Union Castle and had to meet the deadlines when a ship had to sail — often by working into the early hours.

In CTPS he was liked by all, not only because he was such a keen supporter of the social weekends, but also he was always courteous and smiling, reports Eric Vertue. After his premature death from cancer, he willed his photographic equipment and books to the society.

Otto Dose

One of the top CTPS photographers who was also awarded a Fellowship of the Roy-

al Photography Society in 1960, Otto Dose was a 'keen colour print worker, mainly interested in photographing flowers in situ, no matter how high up the mountain they grew', Eric Vertue described him in the book *Cape Town Photographic Society 100 years*.

He also left a lasting legacy to CTPS when he introduced typed minutes when he became secretary in 1946.

Anette Kellerman

Photography is a way of life for her, says Anette Kellerman, whose interest started at a very young age, while she was still at school, reports **Pat Scott**.

After school she progressed from her mother's old box camera to her own Olympus with a fixed lens, later a Minolta with a 11.4 lens and on her first overseas visit she bought a cine camera in Hong Kong.

1961: President: Robert Page **Vice:** Robert Page
Presidents: Brian Greener, W. Richards
Treasurer: Gilbert Whiteing **Secretary:** Vera Vertue
Other members: Stephen Wellman, Y.M. Grant, Bill Vye, Eric Vertue, Marjorie Bull (librarian), Rod Rodrigues.
1962: President: Robert Page **Treasurer:** Brian Greener **Secretary:** Joyce Lodge
1963: President: Brian Greener **Treasurer:** Brian Greener **Secretary:** Vera Vertue
1964: President: Brian Greener **Treasurer:** Brian Greener **Secretary:** Vera Vertue
1965: President: Eric Vertue **Vice:** Eric Vertue
President: H.R. Lawley & HCP Page **Treasurer:** Percy Scott (Scotty) **Secretary:** Vera Vertue
Other members: Brian Greener, Dick Pearce (librarian), Roy Johannesson, Bill Vye
1966: President: Robert Page **Treasurer:**

Brian Greener **Secretary:** Vera Vertue
Other members: Scotty Scott, Dick Pearce, Eric Vertue, Brian de Kock, Roy Johannesson, Cyril Dally, Mike Warner, Bill Vye
1967: President: Brian Greener **Treasurer:** Brian Greener **Secretary:** Vera Vertue
Other members: Bill Vye, Eric Vertue, Roy Johannesson (members representative)
1968: President: MJ Warner **Treasurer:** Brian Greener **Secretary:** Vera Vertue
1969: President: Roy Johannesson **Treasurer:** Brian Greener **Secretary:** Vera Vertue
1970: President: Alan Thaysen **Treasurer:** Brian Greener **Secretary:** Vera Vertue
1971: President: T. Stafford Smith **Treasurer:** Brian Greener **Secretary:** Vera Vertue

1972: President: Eric Vertue **Treasurer:** Brian Greener **Secretary:** Vera Vertue
1973: President: Dick Pearce **Treasurer:** Brian Greener **Secretary:** Vera Vertue
1974: President: Peter Smits **Treasurer:** Brian Greener **Secretary:** Vera Vertue
1975: President: David Fisher **Treasurer:** Brian Greener **Secretary:** May Sim
1976: President: Tita Wilson **Treasurer:** Brian Greener **Secretary:** May Sim
1977: President: Ted Dickinson **Treasurer:** Brian Greener **Secretary:** Vera Vertue
1978: President: David Ives **Vice-President:** Ian Levy **Treasurer:** Brian Greener **Secretary:** Vera Vertue
1979: President: Tita Wilson **Vice-President:** Ian Levy **Treasurer:** Brian Greener **Secretary:** Vera Vertue



From the left: Daphne Starling, Raymonde Johannesson and Annette Kellerman and right Roy Johannesson enjoying a sociable moment.

Right: The cover of one of the numerous photobooks Alice Mertens produced.



As she progressed, so too did her desire to excel. Anette recalls that in order to achieve this objective she joined CTPS in 1972. At first she photographed “everything under the sun”, but soon realised that her main interest was in Nature. She also took courses in black and white printing.

She was reluctant to enter competitions because she was not sure if she would be able to take the criticism, but took the plunge in 1973 and struggled through the Beginner and Intermediate categories.

“I almost lost interest but Roy and Raymonde Johannesson were the two people who most encouraged me to carry on and who taught me just about all I know of photography,” she told *Cape Camera* in 2001.

But, once she reached Salon status, she developed a sixth sense and soon won 5 Disas, 3 Diamond ratings (nature) and one in Pictorial and was awarded a prestigious Associateship by the Royal Photographic Society.

She says that photography had contributed to the quality of her life, added valued friendships, and has also helped her accept criticism.

Alice Mertens

One of the big names in South African photography, Alice Mertens, was a CTPS member for 42 years. She joined the society in 1959 and remained a member until her death in 2001, when she was 86.

In 1970 she was awarded a Fellowship by the RPS in the Educational section for the beautiful photographic books she had published. She was especially known for her books on Namibia, in particular, the Namib Desert.

She also held several exhibitions of her photos of wild life and studies of indigenous people.

As lecturer in photography at the Fine Arts Department of the University of Stellenbosch she nurtured and formed many

budding photographers. She was world-renowned for her work and was a Fellow of the Royal Photographic Society and early in her career worked as official photographer for the League of Nations.

Rod Rodrigues

An accomplished cine worker, Rod Rodrigues served on council during the 1960's. Eric Vertue remembers him as a ‘magician extraordinary’ and recounts how Rod had made a cake for Olive Vye out of sawdust and a bit of candle – with the candle burning as it came out of the pan!

Ray Ryan

Another long-standing CTPS council member, Ray Ryan, was a professional photographer who had published photographic works like *Memories of Italy World War II*, *Ghoema* and *Glitter* on the Minstrel Carnival and *Beautiful Homesteads of the Western Cape*, with Eric Vertue.

He had joined CTPS in 1937.

In 1954 he opened his own studio in Mill Street, Cape Town.

He was a very good photographer, who won two certificates of excellence at the Kodak International Colour Competition at the New York World Fair in 1963, where 168,000 entries were received.

He was also a regular contributor to the *PSSA Camera News* publication.

Denis Sprenger

Another late member who was always willing to do whatever was wanted of him, according to Eric Vertue, Denis Sprenger served CTPS as secretary, chairman of the photographic section and salon secretary. He also contributed by writing columns for *Camera News*, edited by Eric Vertue.

“A very gifted pictorial photographer in both prints and transparencies,” says Vertue. His work earned Sprenger an Associ-

ateship of the Royal Photographic Society. He died in 1972.

Percy (Scotty) Scott

Scotty Scott and his wife Ivy were among the hard-working couples who made CTPS into the society it is today. He was the honorary auditor for many years, but also acted as treasurer on occasion and served on council in other capacities in the 1950's.

“He and his wife were always in the forefront when anything had to be done,” Eric Vertue described him.

The Scotts were also very active in the Salvation Army, where Scotty was a major, and both of them were also promoted to the rank of brigadier.

Daphne Starling

Daphne Starling's interest in photography started when she was still at school and took photos with her Baby Brownie of friends in Newlands, writes **Pat Scott**. She progressed to using a cine camera after her father bought one for an overseas trip.

She returned to slides after she joined CTPS in 1969. She recalls getting a red award in the Beginners category for her first entry and didn't submit again for about a year...thereafter the local and international awards flowed!

One of these was the Geological Award she received in 1986 from the Paisley International Exhibition in Scotland, with a slide taken at Sossusvlei.

She was also awarded a Diamond (Pictorial) and 3 Diamond (Nature) ratings from the PSSA and 2 Star Nature from the Photographic Society of America.

Daphne was elected secretary of the cine section soon after joining CTPS and also served on council for many years until 2007. She held various positions, like members representative and slide convenor. This earned her the CTPS silver medal for continuous special service in 1986