



IPIP Photographic Club

July 2024 Newsletter

Theme: Abstract

Image By



Byron Kennedy

Our thanks to the members who submitted contributions for the April newsletter. Once again may we emphasize that if you have any item of photographic interest - technical or otherwise - which you wish to share, then you are welcome to forward such material either to me at pdk.main@gmail.com or to the IPIP address Ed

Matters Arising from the July Club Meeting

A total of 26 members were present at our July meeting and we were also joined by 3 online members.

Food Photography

We were fortunate in viewing an informative online presentation by Francois Venter on the intricacies of good Food Photography. Francois is the Regional Director for Northern Gauteng, with a number of prestigious awards to his name.

The central theme of Francois' message was to focus your mind on what effect you wish to achieve with your food photo. The presentation included many relevant examples and Francois touched on a number of technical as well as artistic tips and techniques – among which STYLING plays a central role.

The Powerpoint slides are included as an addendum to this newsletter.

Our thanks go to Francois for his thought-provoking and insightful “mini training session”.

Further Matters Arising

The Set Subject for September is COLD, defined as “Related to temperature. The focus of the image should be of something cold for example ice, frost, breath, icicles, snow or a clearly cold winters morning or evening. Not necessarily a Scape scene”.

The winning Club photos were presented and the meeting closed with a discussion of a few randomly-selected members' images.

IPIP Website

Members are reminded that our Club website www.ipip-photoclub.co.za has been up and running for a while now. This is a first-class professional landing site full of interesting information and striking images, which we hope will attract newcomers to our Club.

PhotoVault Submission

All our monthly photo submissions are handled via Photovault at www.photovaultonline.com. A separate document explaining how to access Photovault is available on request. When submitting your images ensure that you receive an Email confirmation from PV within, say an hour, to the effect that your photos have been received. If not, you need to “re-finalise” your submission.

In 2024, Photovault will be used to track your scores and progress. The rule is that one image can be accepted in three Salons and will count 3 times for IPIP promotion.

It should be noted that there is no possibility of circumventing default Photovault procedures. Thus, late submissions are automatically disallowed and members should ensure that the monthly submission deadlines are observed.

A schedule of monthly submission dates, is included at the end of this newsletter.

Outings and Events

2025 Wakkerstroom Weekend Away- 25th to 27th April

A timely notice of the 2025 weekend away, an event which has become increasingly popular with our members.

Other

Our outing convenor is investigating visits to either Nirox Sculpture Park or Brookwood Trout Farm (or both) to afford us the opportunity of depicting “COLD” conditions.

Members are reminded of the 2024 PSSA Southern Gauteng Regional Congress & Interclub Competition, to be held on 24 August 2024 at Klip River Country Estate. From 08:30 to 15:00

Technical Feedback and Tutorials

Something to look forward to . .

In the course of the next few newsletters, we will include extracts from a series of articles entitled “Judging the Judge”. The material delves deeply into the Photographer/Judge interaction and provides useful insight into the sometimes “touchy” aspect of seeing our images judged by others – not always to our liking!

The articles were prepared by Francois Roux – presently Company Secretary of PSSA – and we thank Dudley for submitting this material.

And now for something completely different!

In the recent past we have put our efforts into producing snappy abstract photos and I know that many of our members enjoy also macro/close-up work. So what about trying our hands at spider webs – could be fun! . . . Ed

Find inspirations at:

https://digital-photography-school.com/how-to-photograph-a-spiders-web/?utm_source=newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Jun2024

Members' Forum – An article by Robin Larmuth

AM I MISSING SOMETHING? HOW TO PHOTOGRAPH SOMETHING THAT ISN'T THERE!

*Last night I saw upon the stair
A little man who wasn't there
He wasn't there again today -
I wish, I wish he'd go away!*

The little poem remembered from my childhood kind of encapsulates what I want to talk about in this article. The new power of cameras to photograph something that may no longer be in the frame. Sounds like a bit of gobbledygook doesn't it? No Sir! In fact, I would predict that it will become more and more prevalent in all brands of camera going forward.

It is a technology that Nikon call pre-release capture, and Canon calls it pre-burst capture capability. Sony also have their own version, and it's just a matter of time before other brands follow suit (if they haven't already).

So – what is it? In a nutshell, it's the ability of a camera to record images before you fully press the shutter. So, if you've ever had the experience of photographing say a bird on a branch, only to find when you look back at the image, that the branch is clearly still there, but the bird is not in the shot, then pre-release capture is the answer to your problem!

The buffering of the camera is a short-term memory capability before the information is transferred to the memory card. And that is the mechanism that is used to magically capture images of events that have already happened. The buffering is activated by semi-depressing the shutter button. And the effect therefore is that you are shooting backwards in time! But it's not recorded on your memory card unless you fully depress the shutter button.

I will recount some of the experiences that I have had with my Nikon when using this system. Initially it just requires setting up a couple of options in one of the menus. I have my pre-release burst set to 1 sec – this is the backwards in time shooting option! Then for the post release burst I also have the camera set up for 1 sec.

The next thing to set up is the fps (frames per second). I have the options of 30, 60 or 120fps. The first time I tried this technology, and after I had watched an Australian photographer give his recommendation for 120fps, that's exactly what I did! I got back from a trip to the Aloe Farm with 16,600 images! Never again.....I now set it to 30fps.

Nikon current drawback with this technology is that it only works with JPEGs. So, when shooting at high ISO – say above 1600, or when needing to do substantial cropping, then noise becomes an issue. And Lightroom cannot denoise a JPEG. I believe that other brands of camera (I can't bring myself to name them) don't have this issue, so I conclude that it will only be a matter of time before Nikon offer a firmware update.

Once you've got the camera set up, and you've focused on the subject, then you semi depress the shutter button. When the bird starts to fly off, this is the time to fully depress the shutter. However, if this doesn't happen within 30 seconds, then you must take your finger off the button and start again, because the camera buffering will have reached its capacity.

The results can be quite amazing. It's not that you're getting shots that you've never captured before – it's just that the "hit rate" of good action shots is far, far greater than ever before. But a word of warning here – at 30fps you have GOT to become acutely aware of how long you're depressing the shutter button! Otherwise, that DELETE button on your computer is going to take a pounding! 30fps doesn't mean the shutter switches off after 1 second – it continues at 30fps for as long as your grubby finger is pushing down on the shutter button. I know from experience!

A 1 second burst in post-release is more than enough time – even the slowest, most ponderous bird will be out of the frame by then, and if you're shooting sunbirds they can be almost in the next suburb in that time! Maybe

however if you have a penchant for photographing sloths, then the 4 second post-release burst may be more appropriate.

Of course, this camera capability is not only reserved for shooting birds. It can also be used for any form of wildlife. And, for example, in many forms of sport. Focus your camera on the finishing line of a sprint. As the runners breast the tape then fully depress the shutter, and you can get the shots of up to one second before the runners hit the tape. Could be some great results there. Actually, I suppose because the runners are already in motion and not static, that you would probably only want a 0.3 second pre-release burst.

I can't give much more information at this point. This is a new camera capability which I think is amazing, and which I'm sure is going to develop and evolve to even better options in the future.

The next meeting will be on 6th August, 18H00 for 18H30

Hope you enjoyed the July newsletter

HAPPY SHOOTING

IPIP PHOTOGRAPHIC CLUB

[Set Subject Calendar for 2024](#)

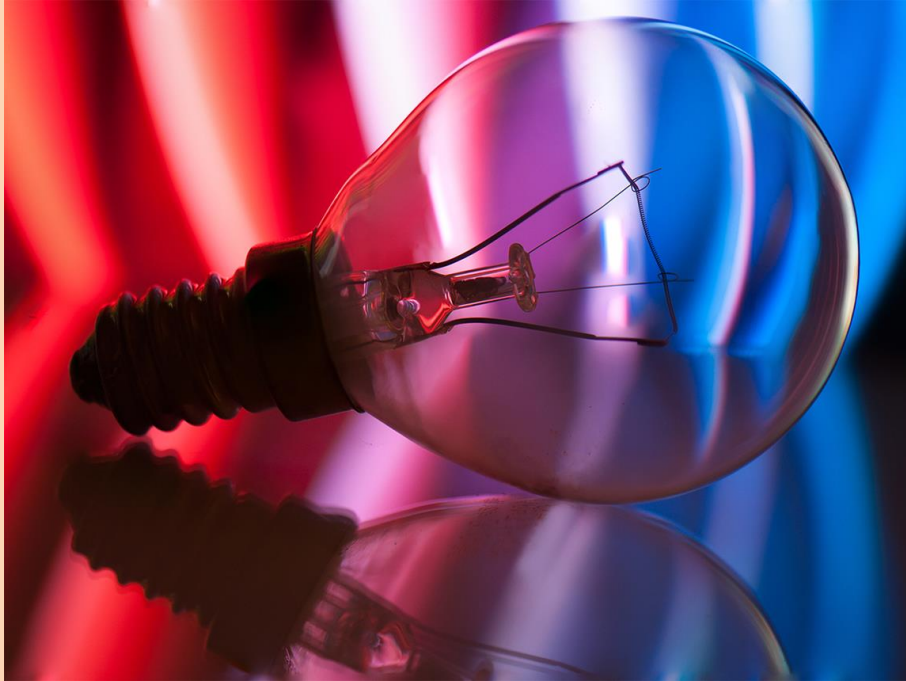
Month	Set Subject	Definition	SS Image Cut-off Date	MC Image Cut-off Date	Submission Date
August	Food	A restaurant would like to show chase their meals on a new menu card, their online ordering platform or website. Your task is to photograph the food in a manner that would look appetising.	1 st July 2023	1 st February 2024	27 th July 2024
September	Cold	Related to temperature. The focus of the image should be of something cold for example ice, frost, breath, icicles, snow or a clearly cold winters morning or evening.	1 st August 2023	1 st March 2024	24 th August 2024
October	Travel	A photograph depicting travel, either the destination or the mode. May be a beach, an iconic scene, a suitcase and ticket or a train for example.	1 st Sept 2023	1 st April 2024	21 st September 2024
November	Farming	Explore the world of agriculture by photographing the daily life, work, and landscapes of farms, showcasing the agricultural process. Focus is on farming activities, landscapes, or farm life. No farm animals unless they form part of the landscape, activity or daily life.	1 st October 2023	1 st May 2024	26 th October 2024

Members' Images – July 2024

Salon Acceptances

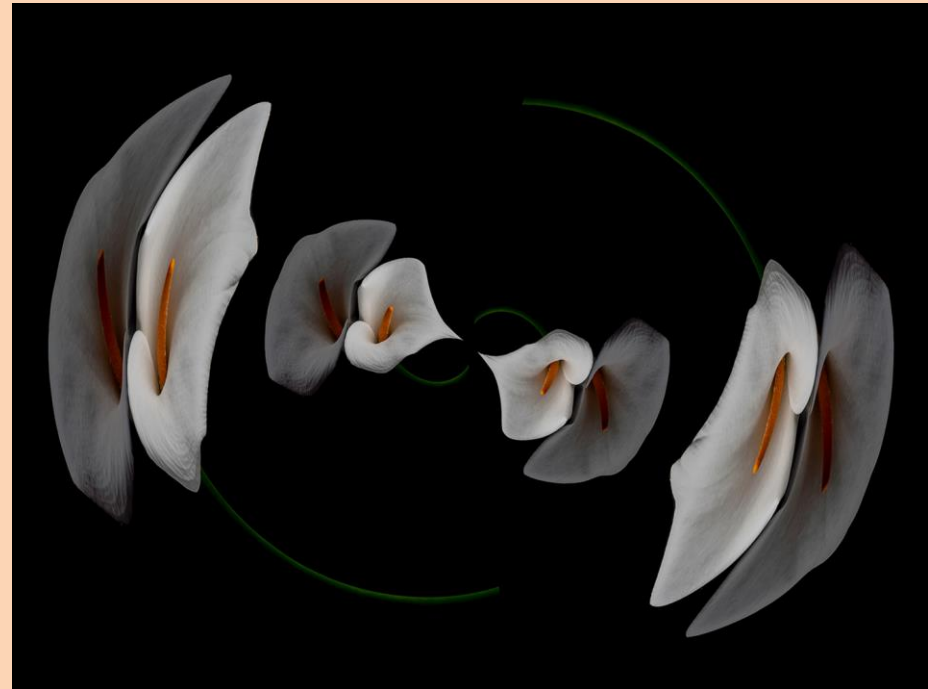
PSSA Up-and-Coming

Lesly Kearns Eastwick (5 images)



Bulb (35)

Lilies (35)



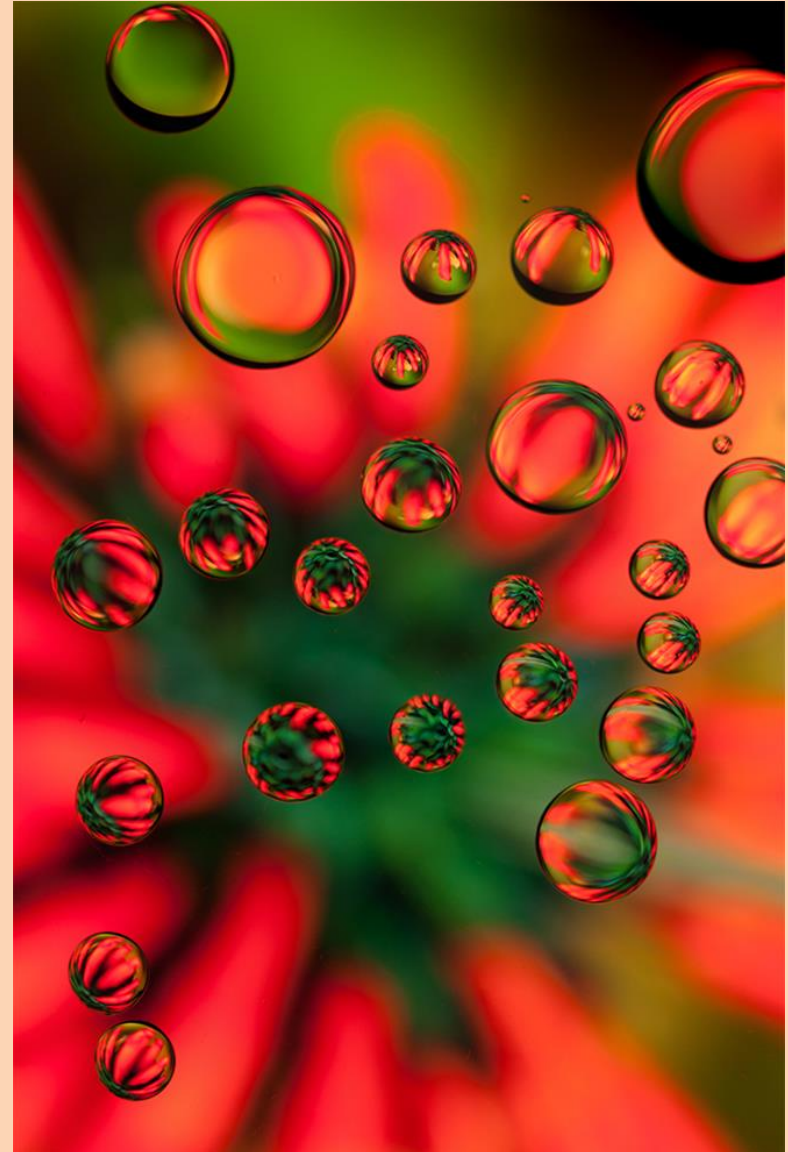
Members' Images – July 2024

Salon Acceptances



Window Pose (35)

Colour Burst (36)



Members' Images – July 2024

Salon Acceptances

Shopping done (36)



Members' Images – July 2024

Salon Acceptances

PSSA Up-and-Coming

Kim Lategan – Hanging Around (34)



Members' Images – July 2024

Salon Acceptances

MFCC Salon

Dudley Schnetler



Santa Maddelena Italian Dolomites



Members' Images – July 2024

SS – Judges' and Peer Vote

1-3 STAR WINNER

Colourful – Lesly Kearns Eastwick



Members' Images – July 2024

SS – Judges' Vote

4 STAR WINNER

Pierre de Klerk - Lines (38)



Members' Images – July 2024

SS – Judges' and Peer Vote

5 STAR WINNER

Alan Mason (39) – Jellyfish



Members' Images – July 2024

SS – Peer Vote

4 STAR WINNER

Abstract Colours – Derek Carstens



Members' Images – July 2024

MC – Judges' and Peer Vote

1-3 STAR WINNER

Gerry Mullon – Minds Eye (40)



Members' Images – July 2024

MC – Judges' Vote

1-3 STAR WINNER

Antje Higgo



Snake Portrait (40)

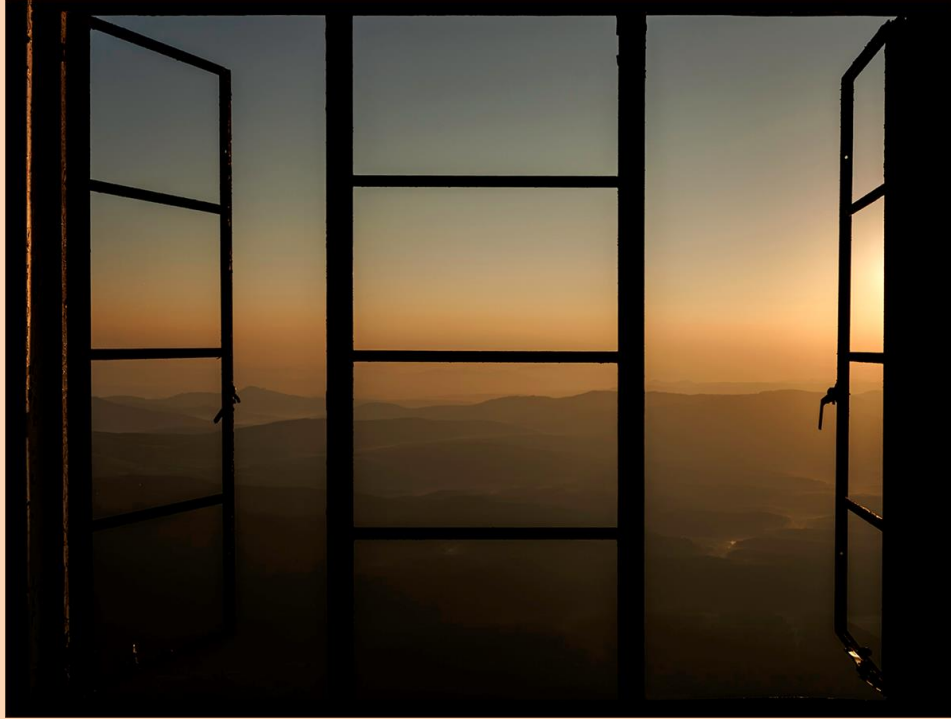
Spotted (40)



Members' Images – July 2024

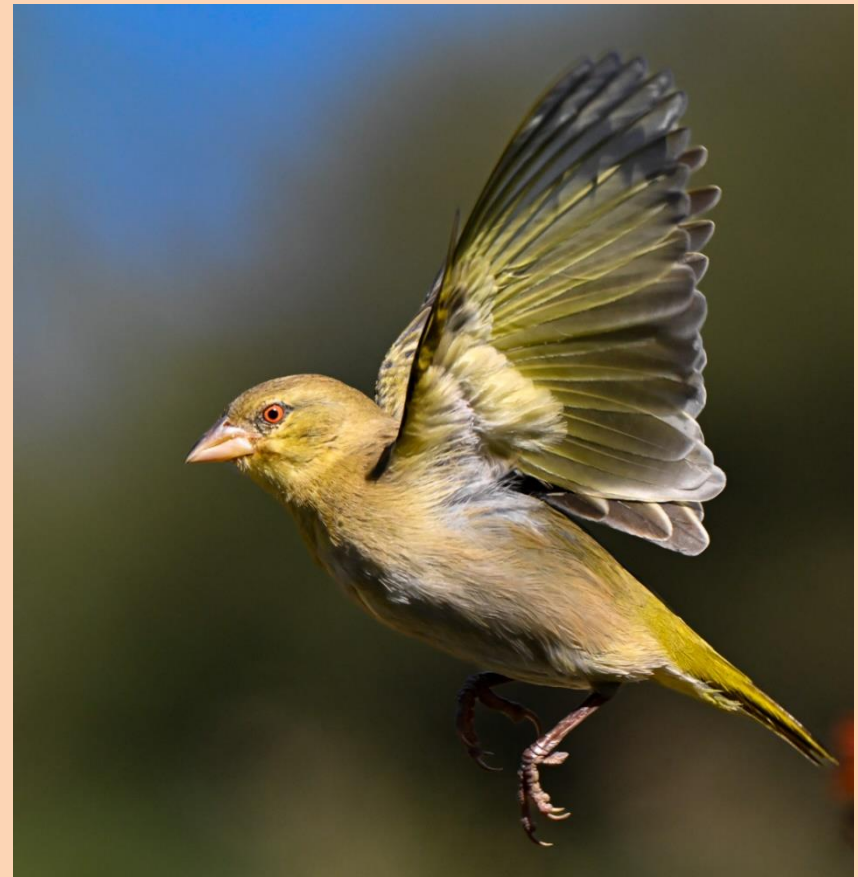
MC – Judges' Vote

4 STAR WINNERS



Saskia Cole – Infinity (38)

Robin Larmuth – Take Off (38)



Members' Images – July 2024

MC – Judges' Vote

5 STAR WINNER

Dutchy Geldenhuys (40) – Looking



Members' Images – July 2024

MC – Peer Vote

4 STAR WINNER

Leaves – Robert Freeborough



Members' Images – July 2024

MC – Peer Vote

5 STAR Winners



Mean Machine – David Wolsentcroft

Kaapschehoop Escarpment

Sandy van Vuuren

