

# The Bellows

Official newsletter of the Tygerberg Photographic Society



Website: [tygerphoto.co.za](http://tygerphoto.co.za)  
Email: [info@tygerphoto.co.za](mailto:info@tygerphoto.co.za)



Proud member of the  
**Photographic  
Society of South Africa**

# In this issue

ROB'S RAMBLINGS

*Page 3*

CHAIRMAN CHATTER

*Page 4*

LAST MONTH'S WINNERS

*Pages 5-8*

TPS NEWS & INFORMATION

*Page 9*

THIS MONTH'S SET SUBJECT

*Page 10*

OTHER NEWS AND INFORMATION

*Pages 11-14*

SPECIAL IMAGES

*Pages 15-16*

COVER IMAGE by David Barnes entitled "A new day".

A special thank you to our sponsor, Orms, for their continued support. Their Bellville branch is located at 27 Willie Van Schoor Dr, Bo Oakdale, telephone 021 910 1380.

**ORMS**  
EVERYTHING PHOTOGRAPHIC

# Rob's Ramblings

Hello everyone,

And just like that our 2025 photographic year is alive and kicking! I wish you all a year filled with superb images and gold awards!

I hope you will enjoy our cover this month. I'm sure you all have experienced the situation where a photograph brings back a memory. Well - this month's cover evokes a memory in the form of a tune into my head. This happened originally as soon as I saw the title, but now the image itself resurrects the song, and it's a most enjoyable experience. I normally spend quite some time choosing one of my favourites to feature on the cover, but this month was a no-brainer! As soon as the image came up on the screen on competition night, I knew that if it was not one of the winning images, it would be this month's choice! I absolutely love everything about it - it ticks all the boxes. Oh - and the tune? Well, it's "For no one" by The Beatles, and was released back in 1966 on the "Revolver" album. It starts "Your day breaks, your mind aches, etc." Just another example of the power of photography. Thank you David!

Later in the newsletter is some information about the PSSA and their congress in August this year. There is a lot going on at the PSSA at present, and I was surprised to see that out of the 45 members who list TPS as their main club, only 10 are members of the PSSA! For those who aren't members, I have included a list of some of the benefits of being a member of the PSSA, plus a list of the fees involved. There is a once-off entrance fee as well as an annual subscription. Now is a really good time to join, because if you join between January and March, the subscription fee is halved as you only pay for 6 months' membership! So your initial outlay is lower than normal. But you are then in line to take advantage of the "early bird" discount at renewal time in June/July. It's really worth thinking about.

While talking about fees, this is just a reminder for the few that haven't yet paid their TPS subscription for this year. Please make your payments as soon as possible. At the same time, we understand that peoples' circumstances change, so if there are any who do not want to renew their membership, please help our admin and just drop Michael West a note via email or WhatsApp saying you won't be renewing. It really would be appreciated - thank you.

January saw the introduction of our new (or for the older members - the reversal back to the old) scoring system. I think it went off well and we will get used to it quickly. Just for your information, I did an analysis of all the images and scores for 2024, and then compared our January 2025 results to those. You can find a short summary in the TPS News and Information section on page 9.

As no salon results were announced during January, the Special Images section at the end of the newsletter features the images that received a score of 13 at last month's competition.

Till next month...

Rob

# Chairman Chatter

Hi there Tygertogs

Welcome back, from what was a relaxing break and a great holiday.

We ended off last year with an outing to Observatory for some street photography, where the main road was closed off allowing the public to walk around unhindered, it was great to see one of our new members join us on the Saturday morning, and to see some images in our January competition.

One big change that has been introduced this year was the change in scoring from 30 to 15. This brings TPS in line with most other photographic societies in South Africa. Our January competition was judged out of 15, and I have not had any concerns raised yet, hopefully there will be none.

At our strategy meeting in early December, some exciting ideas were discussed for 2025, which will be introduced during the year. More about this later on.

John and Elaine have planned an outing to lower Bree Street late in January with the closure of the street to vehicles, giving many opportunities for street photography and Patterns and Shapes, as Elaine has shared with us on WhatsApp. I hope many of you can make this and support them.

We have planned an Image Review for our February L&S, so if you would like to have any of your images discussed by your peers, please feel free to forward these on to me for inclusion on the night.

At our January club competition, 15 members attended in person, with 10 members joining us via zoom, plus our judge, Phil Sturgess. We also had 1 visitor who joined us at our venue as well.

I would encourage all of you to please review your entries into Photovault carefully, and verify that you received the Entry Confirmation email, which confirms you have finalised your entries. Also, that you have entered the correct images into the relevant category.

Congratulations to our January competition winners, all photographs and details can be found on the following pages.

Michael

# January 2025 Competition Winners



SET SUBJECT WINNER - SENIOR  
*Cheating bastard by David Barnes*



SET SUBJECT WINNER and  
JUDGE'S CHOICE - JUNIOR

Wilted flower  
*by*  
*Annelize van der Berg*



## January 2025 Competition Winners (cont.)



**OPEN WINNER and JUDGE'S CHOICE - SENIOR**  
*The challenge by Pieter Swart*



**OPEN WINNER - JUNIOR**  
*Elephant greetings by Kobus Mouton*



## January 2025 Competition Winners (cont.)



SET SUBJECT RUNNER-UP - SENIOR

*Eden lost by John Read*



SET SUBJECT  
RUNNER-UP - JUNIOR

*The rose  
by  
Charlotte van der Berg*

## January 2025 Competition Winners (cont.)



OPEN RUNNER-UP - SENIOR  
*Moody blues by David Barnes*



OPEN RUNNER-UP - JUNIOR  
*I see you by Brian Moffatt*



# General TPS news and information

## January 2025 competition

Last month:

- **40** images were entered in the Set Subject category. The winning score was 14 (David Barnes - winner-senior, and John Read - runner-up-senior), with the average score being 10.6, and 11 being the most common score. A full list of the Set Subject scores can be found on our website by clicking [here](#).

- **56** images were entered in the Open category. The winning score was 15 (Pieter Swart - winner and judge's choice - senior), with the average score being 10.7, and 11 being the most common score. A full list of the Open scores can be found on our website by clicking [here](#).

Our judge for the month was Phil Sturgess, and he provided some good feedback on our images, even though he was a bit stricter than most of the judges we are used to.

Just to give you some comparison, last year we had a total of 885 images judged at our monthly competitions. Out of those, 348 (or 39,3%), received a score of 24 (this would be 12 under our new system) or more. This month, on competition night, we had 96 images judged, and only 22 of those (22.9%) received a score of 12 or more! So if you didn't get as many gold awards as normal. you're in good company!



### STAR ADVANCEMENTS

👏👏👏 **CONGRATULATIONS!** 👏👏👏

to **Alf Moffatt**, who advanced from **1-star to 2-star!**

*Keep reaching for the stars!*

## New members

No new members this month. Total membership remains at 50.

## Learn and Share

Our Learn and Share evening in February takes place on Tuesday 18 February. This time it takes the form of another image review, where members can have any of the images they submitted last month reviewed by participating members. This is an extremely useful session, as one can get a really comprehensive insight into areas for improvement. Please submit any image you would like discussed, to Michael West, by Friday night, 14 February.

# This month's set subject

## Patterns and shapes

### Definition

Patterns can be found everywhere – in nature and man-made constructions. They are made up of repeated objects, shapes, or colours and whether they're random or ordered can be very pleasing to the eye.

Textures are repetition of patterns, creating a uniform texture. Those patterns can be everything from curves to straight lines. When working with curves, circles and shapes, consistency in size and shape is what is important.

**MANIPULATION IS ALLOWED**

**Closing date for Photovault: Friday 21 February**  
**Competition night: Wednesday 26 February**

### Judge

Our judge for this month is André Stipp.

André is a former member of TPS, and an excellent photographer. He holds a number of PSSA Honours Awards, namely APSSA, LPSSA, DPSSA(CIs), and DPSSA(Vers).

André has a beautiful website, full of stunning images, which you can view by clicking on this link:

<https://stippography.com/>



## Other news and information

***From the Western Cape PSSA Newsblog (See Blog [here](#))***

*Extracts from the post: **Join us in Struisbaai in August!***

The 2025 PSSA National Congress will be hosted by Cape Town Photographic Society (CTPS) in and around Struisbaai from 11-15 August. This will be to celebrate their 135<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Since Struisbaai is on our doorstep, we hope to welcome all of you there!

You can read more about the congress highlights and registration details [here](#).

You'll probably ask why Struisbaai and why so early in August?

The patches of bright yellow canola interspersed with the rolling green Ruêns create unique scenic scapes, which can only be seen at that time of the year in the Overberg (the district surrounding Struisbaai). Because the farmers alternate the fields where they plant canola crops, the scapes will not be the same from year to year. Another bonus of timing the congress in August is that we are likely to have brooding cloudy skies – ideal for dramatic sea and landscape photography.

Struisbaai is a seaside village next to L'Agulhas (they flow into each other) which is the Southernmost point of the African continent, where the Indian and Atlantic oceans meet. Landmarks you'll want to photograph are the historic old lighthouse, wreck of the Meishi Maru, the southern point beacon, former Hotagterklip fishermen's cottages, (now national monuments), harbour with its resident giant stingray and across the bay, in Waenhuiskrans, the famous *cauldron* and cave and picturesque Kassiesbaai fishing community.

### ***Ed's note:***

*The information above are just snippets from the post on the Western Cape Photographic News blog. Please have a look at the full article (you can read it [here](#)).*

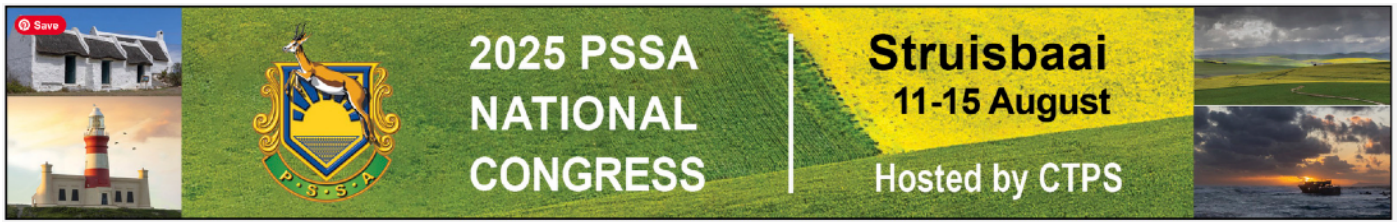
*The article contains a number of really stunning images taken in the area, details of a wide range of presentations on different subjects, including two presentations by Freeman Patterson from Canada.*

*The full article also has an extract from Google Maps, which will give you an indication of what Struisbaai/Agulhas looks like.*



## Other news and information (cont)

From the Photographic Society of South Africa ([PSSA](#)):



### ***Benefits of becoming a member of the PSSA:***

- Participate in salons and obtain acceptances, certificates of merit or medals for your winning images
- Obtain national and internationally recognised honours and awards
- Obtain diamond ratings for achievements at National and International salons (competitions)
- Obtain Impala Trophy awards for achievements at national salons
- Get access to the PSSA online magazine, e-Image
- Have your articles and images published in the e-Image
- Receive frequent PSSA newsletters via email
- Learn new skills through workshops, tutorials and other training opportunities
- Attend workshops (JAP courses) to obtain accreditation as a judge of photography within the Society
- Enjoy discounted entries to photographic salons recognised by PSSA
- Receive awards for service and excellence in photography
- Enjoy discounts when attending National and Regional Congresses

## Other news and information (cont)

### **From the Photographic Society of South Africa (PSSA):**

#### **Fees:**

#### **Ordinary Membership Option (South African)**

This option is for individuals wanting to join the organisation

Entry Fee	R180
Membership Fee	R480
Total	R660

#### **Joint Ordinary Membership Option (South African)**

Husband and wife can hold a joint membership and receive a discount on their membership fees

Entry Fee	R 300
Membership Fee	R 560
Total	R 860

#### **Junior Membership Option (South African)**

Juniors (up to 19 years of age)

Membership Fee	R120
Total	R120

#### **Junior/Student Membership Option (South African)**

Juniors (older than 19 and under 21 years of age)

Entry Fee	R130
Membership Fee	R224
Total	R354

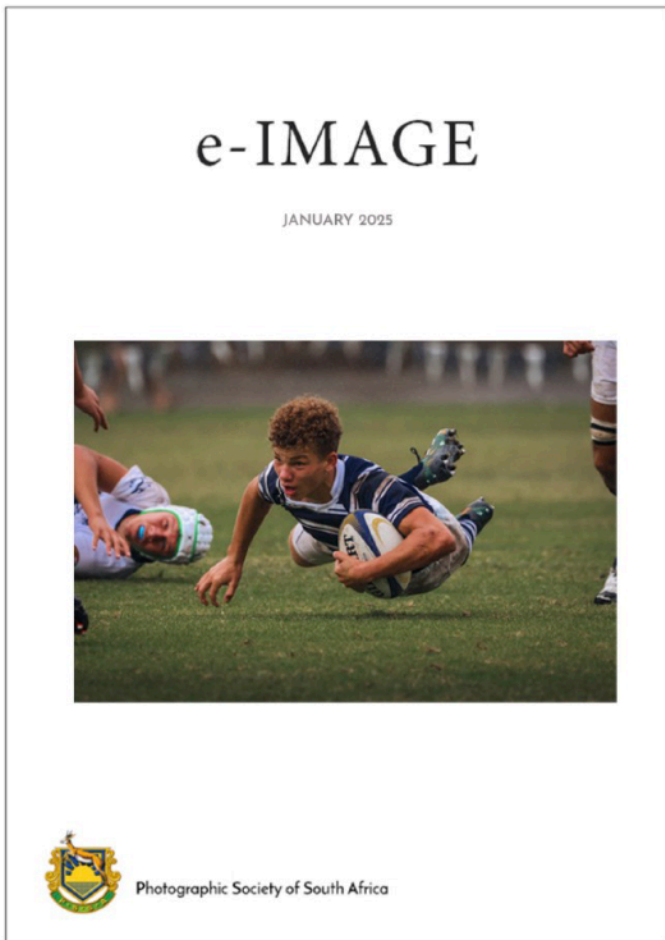
Please note there is also an "early bird" discount available for subscription renewals, **IF** you pay your fees for the new year before the end of the current year, i.e. 30 June. The discount is 20% for members over 65, and 10% for members under 65.

On [this page](#) you can find links to download application forms, or you can simply apply online on the form provided. Banking details can be found on the same page.

## Other news and information (cont)

From the Photographic Society of South Africa (PSSA) cont:

### e-Image Magazine



This is a MUST READ MAGAZINE – it is really inspiring especially to experience what our Youth Photographers are doing and winning medals etc., locally and internationally. WELL DONE TO ALL!

REGIONAL DIRECTORS please promote this to the clubs and if you [click here](#) it will take you directly to the Magazine on our web site. Thank you Jill for a lovely first e-IMAGE of 2025. The next e-IMAGE will come out in April and will include the planned new PSSA logo competition. The deadline for this competition will be the end of August. Another exciting Competition to look forward to supporting. Start thinking about this in as many ways as possible. Updates will be kept up to date for this competition.

*Ed's note:*

*With thanks to Evelyn Gibson. Taken from her February PSSA newsletter.*



## Special images



*Pancake time by Francois du Bois*



*I could be in trouble here by Rob Minter*

## Special images (cont.)

Start building my nest  
by  
*Francois du Bois*



Juvenile black-crowned night heron by *Bennie Vivier*