

Cape Town Photographic Society

South Africa's oldest photographic society



The first CTPS committee (left). An early meeting in the YMCA. (right).

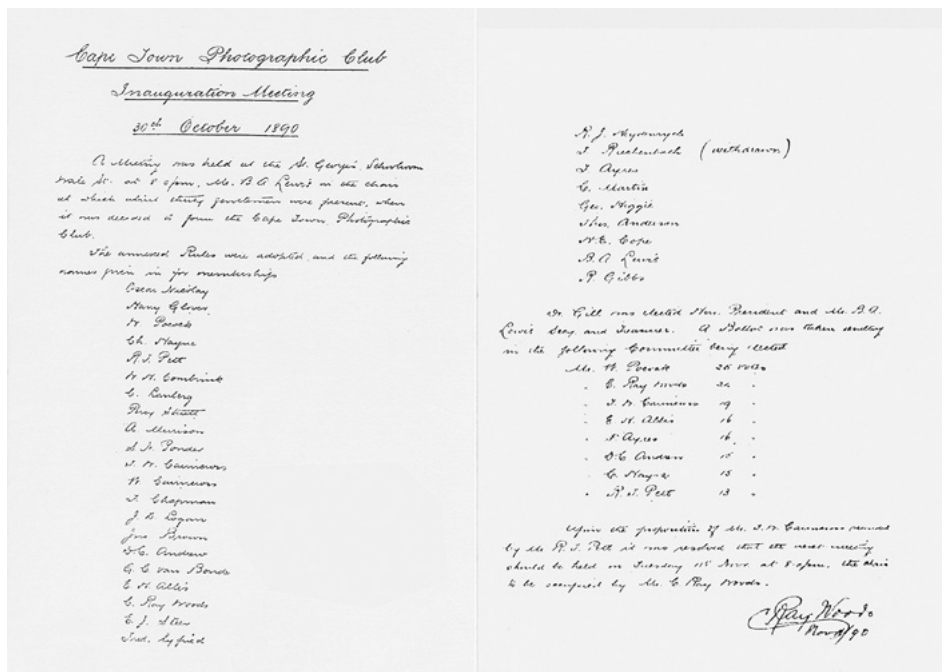
The Cape Town Photographic Society was founded on 30th October 1890 in the St George's School room in Wale Street, Cape Town. The meeting, attended by 30 men, was convened in response to a newspaper advert about forming a photographic society placed by T. W. Cairncross, who lived at Leeuwenhof in the Gardens, and B. A. Lewis, who was the Secretary of the Gas Company. The two gentlemen had discussed the formation of a society for the growing number of people interested in photography over many a 'tickey beer' in the Thatched Tavern on Greenmarket Square.

Her Majesty's Astronomer, Dr David Gill (later Sir), was elected honorary president. Lewis was the first honorary secretary and treasurer and fellow-initiator Cairncross vice-president. The first committee included prominent Capetonians of the time like Ray Woods, EH Allis, who photographed the Great Comet with Gill, F Ayres (of Starke & Ayres seed and flower company) and EK Green (in the liquor trade). The chairmanship rotated from member to member, except when there was a prominent visitor, when Dr Gill took the chair.

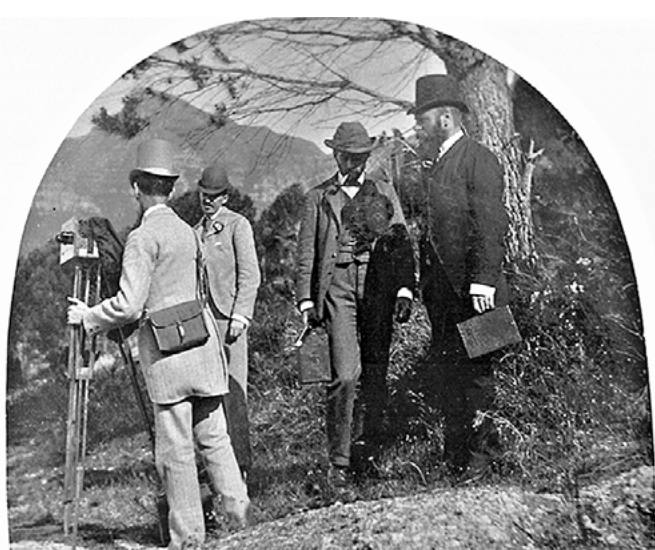
Despite the cumbersome equipment, members regularly went on photographic outings, with horse-drawn carts or ox wagons transporting the equipment — depending on the length of the outing. On shorter outings they carried their own equipment on public transport.

Read more about the history on [this link](#).

Due to the influence of the famous botanist, Rudolf Marloth, who was a CTPS council member and founding mem-



The first minutes signed by secretary Ray Woods (above) include the signatures of all the gentlemen present.



On outings the cumbersome equipment were transported on horse or donkey carts (left). Leeuwenhof, now the Western Cape premier's residence, was a favourite outing venue (right).

ber of the Mountain Club, the two Cape clubs enjoyed many active outings together.

During the foundation years smartly-dressed (male only) members mainly met to share their experiences with cameras they made or adapted, and to discuss fixture recipes, the making of optical lanterns and lantern slides, both wet-plate and commercial and to project their images with 'magic lanterns'. There is an anecdotal tale that one speaker got so carried away while talking about his slide projected in the magic lantern that it caught fire.

Perhaps due to the influence of Dr Gill, stars were popular topics for photos. At the July 1892 meeting Ray Woods showed enlargements of three diameters made from six inch plates of Nebulae. The exposures varied from 5 seconds to 12 hours! The long exposures showed beautiful nebulae, which had never before been seen and could not be seen even with powerful telescopes. Dr Gill and Allis had earlier made history by photographing the Great Comet of 1882 by attaching a camera to the powerful telescope of the Observatory, where Dr Gill was His Majesty's Astronomer at the Cape.

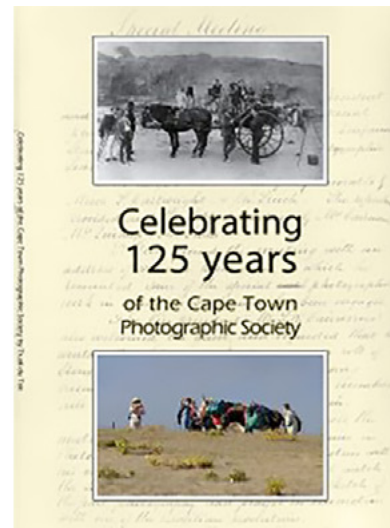
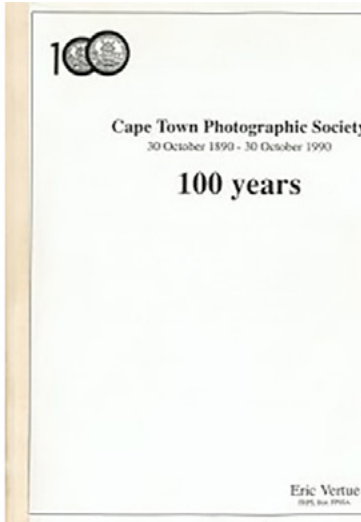
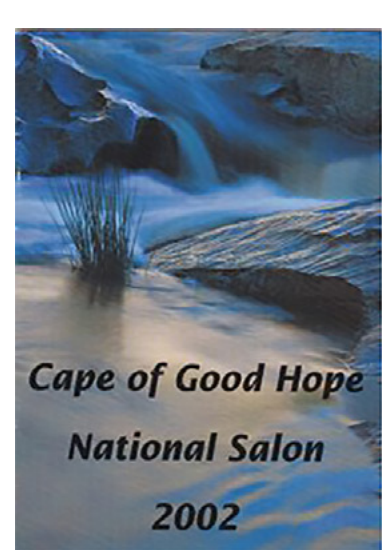
Membership grew rapidly and the club soon had to seek alternate meeting venues, such as the YMCA. Seeking a new venue was a recurring theme until the society bought a building in the 1970s to serve as club house.

The minute books for the period 1897 to 1906 were unfortunately lost and it is not possible to know how the Anglo Boer War affected the club, but during the First World War most of the members had joined the British forces in the war. A Miss Hannah Watkins kept the society going, even when only three members attended, and securely stored assets like the lantern and enlarger.

CTPS had cordial relationships with the early photographic clubs formed in the Cape – Port Elizabeth, Grahamstown, Kimberley, King William's Town and Cradock – and members would sometimes meet for outings or share slides.



From left: a magic lantern used to project slides, a brochure advertising the 1906 International Photographic Exhibition that almost bankrupted the society, an invitation to a slide film presentation and former CTPS president Detlef Basel with one of the earliest cameras that is still part of the CTPS collection.



CTPS regularly produced publications, e.g. the brochure for the 2002 Cape of Good Hope Salon, a glossy full colour catalogue of the award winners in the 125th Anniversary Salon, only a photocopy of Eric Vertue's iconic 100 year history book survived and the glossy publication summarising the society's celebration of its 125 year history.

Members have been creating moving pictures as early as 1890, with the author reading a script while the lanternist moved the slides along. Techniques for creating audio-visual shows improved over the years and in 1948 a group of cinematographers joined CTPS to form the Cine section. The making of AVs is promoted by the club till today.

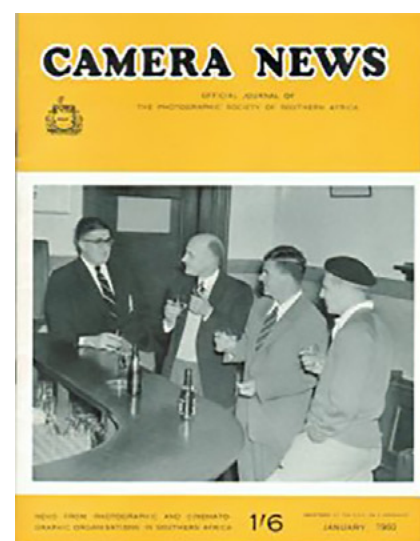
The society organised South Africa's first national salon in 1896, followed by an international salon in 1906, which almost resulted in the society being declared bankrupt. Photographers from across the world were invited to send their entries, which CTPS had printed and framed. They expected to cover the costs by charging visitors to the exhibition in the City Hall a shilling entry fee. Unfortunately, their enthusiasm wasn't shared by the public and when they failed to pay the printer's and framer's bills for this ambitious project, the bailiff came knocking. The society was saved by members who bought life membership for 5 pounds.

In 1932 CTPS decided to establish a bi-annual international salon called the Cape of Good Hope International Salon of Photography, which later became a national salon. This lasted until 2002, after which salons were held periodically.

CTPS was a founding member of PSSA and Eric Vertue (editor of the first PSSA newsletter) and Robert Bell (the second PSSA President) attended the inaugural meeting in Durban.

Over the years CTPS built up an impressive collection of vintage cameras, magic lanterns and other equipment. Most of these are on display at the Science Centre in Observatory, Cape Town. The society also has an extensive library, which includes many rare and valuable photographic books.

In 2023 CTPS hosted a Celebration of Photography exhibition for 21 Western Cape clubs at Groot Constantia Wine



CTPS members played an important role in the early years of PSSA and the 70th anniversary of the society was celebrated on the cover of the 1960 Camera News. Middle: the CTPS Survey Group published their work in a book called "From the days that are gone". Right: In 1970 CTPS moved into its building in Jarvis Street.



A signed menu of the 75-year celebration dinner. Middle: Roy Johannesson, Ray Ryan, Ted Dickinson and Ian Levy attended the exhibition of photos and memorabilia to celebrate the CTPS centenary and (right) the commemorative centenary envelope.

Estate, and again paid for the printing and mounting of all the images. This time there was more than enough money in the bank to cover all costs!

This was made possible by the foresight of the members and committee who had worked tirelessly during the 1960's and 1970's to raise funds to buy a building that would serve as a club house and library. They sold cakes, held rummage sales and raffles, relied on donations and steadily built up reserves to pay a deposit in 1971 on the run-down old church at 28 Jarvis Street, which is now in the Cape Quarter. A few more years of hard work by members to make the building habitable followed, before the first meeting was held in the new premises in October 1975.

Part of the funds that contributed to the building fund came from the profits of the sale of a book on old farmsteads, From the Days that are Gone, published by the CTPS Survey Group. The Survey Group photographed historical Western Cape farms and compared the homesteads with the original plans.

Maintenance of an old building, however, proved to be costly and a tenant was found for Jarvis Street to help cover expenses. But, building maintenance remained a huge expense – for example, the minutes of April 2010 indicate that R67 000 had to be spent on repairs. There was also constant bickering when the tenant was perceived to encroach on CTPS storage territory.

Over the years the area where the building was located became unsafe for members to park and walk to the building at night and it was decided to find a another meeting venue. Selling the building had been discussed at committee meetings since the 1990's and finally, at a Special General Meeting in November 2014, the building was sold to the tenant at the time.

The proceeds, which was wisely invested, enables CTPS to assist smaller clubs in the Western Cape in various ways with donations of equipment. It also made it possible for the club to print and mount the images for the unique exhibition it hosted for the clubs in the region during 2023.

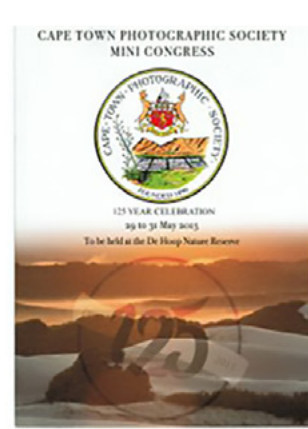
It also remains the largest club in the region, with an annual membership of around 130 to 140. Several of the members are from abroad – Mauritius, Ireland, the UK, Namibia – and also from Gauteng and the Eastern Cape. These members are able to attend meetings via Zoom, which is offered as a hybrid option since the club returned to regular in-person meetings after Covid. Most of the members, however, live in Cape Town and can enjoy each other's company at the monthly competition meetings, educational talks or workshops and outings.

Milestones celebrated

In 1965, the 75th birthday of CTPS was celebrated with a festival of print, slide and cine — 8mm and 16mm cine films and 35mm slide features from members, as well as from photographers across the world – were screened. In addition, 129 prints by members, from experienced to beginners, were displayed in another hall in the building.

This Festival was held over four days at the end of October 1965 in the Union Castle Building in Adderley Street. The historical collection, passed on from one generation of CTPS members to another, was on display in another hall in the building.

The actual birthday was celebrated on 30th October with a smart dinner held in the Lodge De Goede Hoop Banqueting Hall, with toasts by then president Eric Vertue, vice-presidents Horace Lawley and Robert Page and past president Robert Bell.



The 125-year celebration dinner menu. The old logo was updated for the celebration, before being replaced by a new logo. Right: the programme of the CTPS mini-congress.

In 1990, CTPS' Centenary Year, the society celebrated its heritage in many ways. Eric Vertue, who served several terms as president and was the first editor of the PSSA newsletter, Camera News, recorded the society's history in a book. The original version, which included many original photographs, is unfortunately missing, and only photocopied versions remain.

The post office produced a commemorative envelope during the year. In a 4-page advertising supplement in The Argus of 11 September, camera shops and other businesses paid tribute to the society. [Click here to read.](#)

The programme of the highlight of the year, the hosting of the 1990 PSSA National Congress, was included in the supplement. This congress, organised by Vice-President Ian Levy, was the first profitable congress. This was contributed to the attraction of film maker Ashley Lazarus as presenter and the hosting of the Kodak colour print exhibition. It was opened with a banquet hosted by the Cape Town mayor in the congress venue, the Arthur's Seat Hotel in Sea Point.

The contacts of Ted Dickinson, a former air force pilot, made it possible to have the congress photo taken in front of a Shackleton plane. An exhibition, One hundred years of photos and cameras, was held during congress, showcasing photos by old and current members, as well as society memorabilia, which were stored in the society's museum in Jarvis Street. Prominent members who attended the opening of the exhibition are Roy Johannesson, Ray Ryan, Ted Dickinson and Ian Levy.

In 2015 CTPS celebrated its 125th year with a year-long celebration. Outings copied some of the activities from the early days, an exhibition of members' work was held in the foyer of the Artscape Theatre, and a print and digital exhibition of all accepted images in the CTPS 125th Anniversary Salon was held in the Central Library. A printed copy of the salon catalogue is another keepsake of the celebrations.

In May, the society held a mini-congress in De Hoop, where prestigious speakers entertained and educated members.

The logo was updated to include the 125 year celebrations and members could buy rain jackets embroidered with this logo. The following year a design competition was held to replace the old-style logo with a modern emblem, selected



Left: RPS president Walter Benzie (centre) with outgoing CTPS president Detlef Basel and incoming president Nicol du Toit. Middle; PSSA president Francois Rousseau. Right: PSSA regional director for the Western Cape Johan Kloppers.



CTPS president Nicol du Toit opening the exhibition, Martin Barber presenting a lecture and the online information brochure.

by members and various experts.

The highlight of the celebrations year was undoubtedly a gala dinner held on the society's founding day, which was attended by illustrious guests of honour: Royal Photographic Society President Walter Benzie, PSSA President Francois Rousseau and PSSA Regional Director Johan Kloppers.

Despite the venue having to change at the last minute due to student unrest, it was a grand occasion enjoyed by all.

In 2023 CTPS again made history by hosting the first Celebration of Photography. This print exhibition of 171 works by members of 21 clubs in the Western Cape region (including school clubs) was held when clubs in the region decided to do away with the annual Interclub competition.

The exhibition was held in the Tasting venue of Groot Constantia Wine Estate during the peak tourist season from 11 November to end of January 2024, when as many as 11 000 people per month booked for wine tasting tours.

The morning after he opened the exhibition, top Gauteng photographer and speaker Martin Barber, entertained members with two moving lectures by him, also on the Groot Constantia wine estate.

Memorable members

The names of the esteemed gentlemen who attended the inaugural meeting of the Cape Town Photographic Club almost read as the Who's Who of Cape Town society. This trend continued and in subsequent years some of the most prominent members in the city served on the CTPS council – including the mayor, Sir Frederick Smith, who was

Cape Town Photographic Society Presidents

1890 -1906	Dr David Gill	1959-1960	Terence Stafford Smith	1982	David Fisher
1907-1908	JD Cartwright	1961-1962	Robert Page	1983	David Ives
1909-1910	Sir Frederick Smith (mayor)	1963-1964	Brian Greener	1984	Tita Wilson
1911	Rev William Forbes	1965	Eric Vertue	1985	John Wellbeloved
1912	JD Cartwright	1966	Robert Page	1986	Pieter Baartman
1913-19	Dr J Luckhoff	1967	Brian Greener	1987	Eric Vertue
1920-23	H.W. Schonegevel	1968	MJ Warner	1988-1989	David Fisher
1924-25	WM Mathieson	1969	Roy Johannesson	1990	Pieter Baartman
1928	AE Kelf	1970	Alan Thayser	1991 - 1992	Bob Wilkie
1930 - 1937	AvR van Oudtshoorn	1971	Terence Stafford Smith	1993	Pieter Baartman
1938-1939	Fred Harris	1972	Eric Vertue	1994-1996	Mels Homburg
1940-1941	AvR van Oudtshoorn	1973	Dick Pearce	1996-1998	Henk Mulder/ Mels Homburg
1942-1944	Robert Bell	1974	Peter Smits	1999	Henk Mulder
1945-1946	Eric Vertue	1975	David Fisher	2000 -2007	Andries van der Walt
1947-1948	Fred Harris	1976	Tita Wilson	2007-2015	Detlef Basel
1949-1950	Horace Lawley	1977	Ted Dickinson	2015 - 2017	Nicol du Toit
1951-1952	Bertram Fischer	1978	David Ives	2017-2020	Richard Goldschmidt
1953-1954	Robert Bell	1979	Tita Wilson	2020-2023	Jacoba van Zyl
1955-1956	Terence Stafford Smith	1980	Eric Vertue	2023	Nicol du Toit
1957-1958	Eric Vertue	1981	NH Patterson		

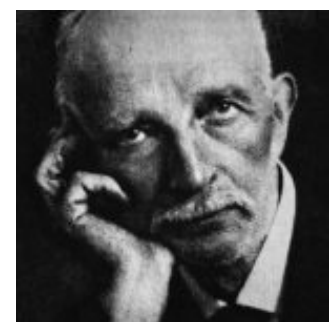
elected CTPS president in 1909 and 1910.



Dr David Gill (later Sir), the first CTPS president who served in this position until he returned to the UK in 1907, was the Astronomer Royal in charge of the Royal Observatory for 11 years. He is credited with assisting with the setting-up of the first photo of the Great Comet of 1882 using the telescope at the Observatory, for using photography to map the Southern Hemisphere skies for the first time and for designing a telescope that was considered the finest in the world. He was knighted in 1900.

TW Cairncross, was the City Engineer of Cape Town and also designed the first water-borne sewerage system. He was the first vice-president. Cairncross' discussions with B.A. Lewis resulted in the formation of the society. Lewis was the manager of the first Cape Town and District Gas Light and Coke Company who introduced street lights.

Edgar Haggar Allis devised a plan to capture the first sharp photograph of the Great Comet and stars with the help of Dr Gill. Ray Woods, the first South African photographer who became a member of the Royal Photographic Society in 1882. He was an official photographer of the Royal Observatory in Cape Town.



Rudolf Marloth was a renowned botanist, who discovered many new plant species. His 6-volume Flora of South Africa publications was a groundbreaking work. Marloth was one of the founding members of the Mountain Club and he organised several joint outings of the two clubs.

Naturalist James Luckhoff, who was CTPS president between 1913 and 1919, successfully campaigned for the establishment of De Waal Park in 1895.

Arthur Elliott was one of the most prominent photographers of the early 20th century. The Historical Monuments Commission acquired his collection of 10 000 photos of Cape Dutch buildings to preserve it as a pictorial record of the city's architectural heritage.



Baron Albert van Rhee van Oudtshoorn, hailed as one of the world's greatest land- and seascape photographers in an article in the American Annual of Photography, was CTPS president from 1930 to 1943. He was the first South African photographer to be awarded Honorary Fellowship by the Royal Photographic Society. The town Oudtshoorn was named after his Dutch aristocratic family.

During the years 1940 to 1979 several CTPS members not only made their mark in society, but also contributed to the promotion of photography nationally, especially with their contribution to the founding and early years of PSSA.

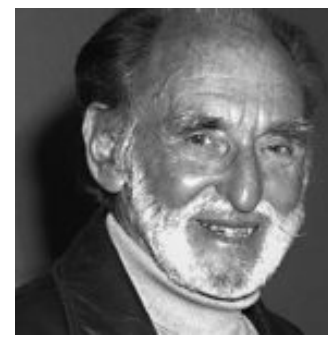


Robert Bell, who served as CTPS president from 1942 to 1944, succeeded Dr Kin Bensusan as the second PSSA president in 1956. He was also one of the PSSA founding members, as he and Eric Vertue were the CTPS delegates to attend the first congress in Durban in 1954. Bell was a regular contributor to the PSSA publication *Camera News*, edited by Eric Vertue. He was an accomplished photographer, who was awarded an Associateship of the PSSA. 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.



Eric Vertue made a huge contribution to recording club photographic history with a publication to celebrate the centenary in 1990, called Cape Town Photographic Society 100 Years, and as the first editor of the PSSA journal, *Camera News*. He was elected CTPS president nine times and served on council for almost 50 years until the late 1980's. 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. He was invited to join the National Monuments Council and also served on the Tulbagh Restoration Committee after the earthquake. In 1973, Eric and CTPS member Ray Ryan

published a book called *Cape Homesteads*, which is also considered to be *Africana*. His book, *Travels with Eric Ver-tue*, is described as an excellent record of the rural Western Cape. Eric was awarded an Associateship of the PSSA (APSSA) as well as the Royal Photographic Society (ARPS) for his photographic work.



Ted Dickinson was another former CTPS president (1990) who was elected PSSA president in 1968 and he also served as chair of the PSSA Honours selection panel. A former RAF and SA Air Force pilot, he encouraged several air force members interested in photography to join the newly-formed PSSA in the early years. He specialised in aerial photography, but was accomplished in other genres. These earned him a Fellowship of PSSA, and he was also awarded an Associateship by the Royal Photographic Society and an Associateship by the Institute of British Photographers.

The latter panel of prints contained many landscapes, which was one of his favourite genres. He wrote a photographic 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. Apart from CTPS in 1971, six other PSSA affiliated clubs awarded him Honorary Life Membership, notably the Johannesburg Camera Club, where he played a leading role.



Roy Johannesson is another legendary former member that helped shape CTPS and South African club photography as PSSA president from 1973 to 1975. He served as CTPS president (1969-70) and chaired the property committee when the building in Jarvis Street was bought. In 1978 CTPS made him an Honorary Life Member. The numerous publications, letters, programmes, newspaper clippings, photos, articles and council minutes he preserved is an invaluable source of reference for recording CTPS history. For more than 50 years he worked tirelessly to promote photography, the society and mentoring young talent. Like anybody who feels strongly about issues, his views sometimes clashed with those of others and CTPS gave him a huge wooden spoon to celebrate his 50th year as a member

because he was always stirring. Roy also had a long association with the PSSA, who gave him a medal for service after he served as president, elected him an Honorary Fellow in 1978 and in 1990 rewarded him with 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 Associateships. 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*. 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.

Alice Mertens, who nurtured many young photographers as lecturer in photography at the Fine Arts Department of the University of Stellenbosch and inspired others with her numerous coffee table books, was a CTPS member for 42 years. In 1970 she was awarded a Fellowship by the Royal Photographic Society Educational section for the beautiful photographic books she had published. Early in her career worked as official photographer for the League of Nations.



Sibyl Morris was a renowned concert pianist, who performed with orchestras around the world under her maiden name Sibyl Whiteman. She was also a presenter on Fine Music Radio and a well-known music teacher and lecturer. CTPS members remember her as the editor of *Cape Camera* from 1997 to 2005, during which time she produced the copy, printed, folded, stapled and mailed all editions of the monthly newsletter. This earned her a CTPS gold medal for service and the first Golden Apple award introduced by Roy Johannesson for those who provide a service to photography in the Western Cape. She also received an APS-SA in colour slides in 1999. She passed away in 2024.

More recently, several CTPS members have also been making a contribution beyond club structures to promote photography in the Western Cape as well as nationally through PSSA.



Arnold Castle was well-known for his black and white images of South Africans from all walks of life and was considered by some as a master portrait photographer. He joined CTPS during the 1970s, where he was inspired by members like Ted Dickinson and Dick Wittington-Jones to play an active role. He passed away in 2020. **Click here** to read a tribute by his daughter, Elana Castle and Antenie Carstens, prepared for ‘The Eternal Scholar’ exhibition of his work Elana curated in 2022.



Detlef Basel received a Lifetime Achievement Award from Jill Sneesby and **Francois Roux** * for his extensive and continued Service to photography and PSSA at the Greyton Congress in 2022. He has been serving South African amateur photographic societies for more than fifty years. When his 8-year term of office as CTPS president came to an end at the AGM in September 2015, he had been serving on photographic association committees, boards and councils for 48 years. He was re-elected as a CTPS council member and served until 2021. Before joining CTPS in 2007, he served on the committee of the Pretoria Photographic Society for 38 years, including three sessions of two years as president. He also served on the PSSA board for 25 years as salon director, and one year as vice-president during the late 1970’s. During the time he served on the PSSA board, he was awarded an APSSA (Associate of the PSSA) for service in the mid-1980’s and Honorary Life Membership in the 1970’s. He was also awarded Life Membership by CTPS and the Pretoria Photographic Society. As a former science teacher he promoted photography by forming clubs at the schools where he taught. After his official retirement and move to Cape Town the Cape Town Science Centre made use of his services. He introduced the Grade 10, 11 and 12’s in township schools to science with a mobile science centre — a truck equipped with all the science materials that the average township school lacked. He also arranged for some of CTPS’ valuable cameras to be displayed at the Science Centre. **Francois Roux***, who served as PSSA President for two terms, is also a CTPS member, but his primary club is Vanderbijlpark Fotografielklub.



Nicol du Toit was elected 2nd Vice-president of PSSA in 2023, the same year he was elected CTPS president for a second term. He has served as PSSA Regional Director for the Western Cape since 2017 and among the projects he introduced for the region were the Honours Group. He led a new team for the Western Cape Judging Accreditation Programme (JAP), which served as a blueprint for the current National JAP course, where he is a member of the national committee. During 2017 he also chaired a sub-committee tasked with formulating a proposal for the formation of the Western Cape Photographic Forum (WCPF), where clubs from the region share their concerns and successes. He chaired the forum for the maximum four years allowed by the constitution. He is a qualified CA, who added an MBA to his qualifications (including B. Comm) after he left the audit profession to enter general management. Soon after joining CTPS in 2011 he was elected treasurer – a position he held until he became president in 2015 – and resumed after the end of his term in 2017.

Assisted by **Trudi du Toit and** teams that included CTPS members, Nicol organised the Montagu Cape Photographers’ Congress in 2019, the PSSA national congress in Greyton in 2022 and the PSSA 2025 National Congress in Struisbaai. Trudi was elected as a PSSA director in 2024 and she manages the Archives Portfolio, which includes the organising of the PSSA 70th Anniversary Travelling Exhibition. She serves on the CTPS council as editor of the club newsletter and in 2016 produced the book *Celebrating 125 Years of Cape Town Photographic Society*.



Neels Beyers is a prolific salon entrant who earned EPSSA(Mille), Honours with 1000 salon acceptances and the EFIAP/s distinction with 300 international salon acceptances with 100 different works in 10 different countries. He was also awarded an Associateship of PSSA in slides, prints and digital (Vers). He served as PSSA Regional Director for the Western Cape for a number of years and in this capacity organised the Cape Photographer Congress in Struisbaai in 2010. Neels served on the CTPS council for 12 years as property manager and secretary and he also ran the AV Group. He organised judging groups in the Western Cape for the 2013, 2014 and 2015 International Challenge 321 AV salons of France and his own

AVs received acceptances in national and international salons. In addition, he revived the Cape of Good Hope Salon

for CTPS in 2002 and published books with images from CTPS members, for example, the 2010 publication commemorating the society's 120th year. Before moving to Cape Town in 2000, he worked in Worcester as an attorney for 18 years, where he served as president of the Worcester Photographic Society.

Kim Stevens is currently the only Western Cape resident that serves on the prestigious PSSA Honours Judging Panel and she also advises members of the Western Cape Honours Group on preparing their Honours panels.



Her own Honours include FPSSA in prints, APSSA(Vers) and DPSSA (Vers) for salon acceptances in colour, monochrome and prints. Her international acceptances earned her the EFIAP distinction. She received the Impala trophy for prints in 2020 and in 2023 and has won numerous photographic competitions. Between 2015 and 2023 she invited and briefed interesting speakers for the CTPS monthly Education and Development meetings. She is always willing to share her knowledge, for example by posting valuable and informative links to online articles on Facebook to help members improve their photographic skills and producing skills improvement tips for the newsletter. This earned her the CTPS President's Award in 2023. The workshop tours she leads to scenic European cities like Valencia or Venice are becoming popular as participants return with medal-winning images.



Evelyn Gibson is well-known to PSSA members as the PRO who communicates with members via the monthly newsletters and as administrator of the PSSA Facebook page. Although she is a former Gauteng and current Garden Route resident, CTPS is now her primary club. She previously served on the Board of PSSA as Regional Director of Gauteng North and then as National Director responsible for the monthly Club Winners Competitions and website competitions, as well as marketing. She has been a member of the prestigious Honours Judging Panel for several years and has been invited to judge around the country. Her Honours include FPSSA, APSSA (Vers), EPSSA(Mille-Platinum), SPSSA and EFIAP. The Photographic Society of America awarded her SPSA honours for Street Photography in mono, and the Royal Photographic Society of Great Britain awarded her ARPS for a mixed panel. She is a former president of the Pretoria Photographic Society (PPS), where she served on the committee for many years. She subsequently initiated the formation of Midrand Camera Club and served as president of the club for three years and also joined the Centurion Camera Club, closer to her home in Pretoria. She joined CTPS in 2020, which became her primary club. In 2023 she was awarded a Lifetime Achievement Award for her services to PSSA and in 2024 she was awarded Hon PSSA for excellent, long term service to PSSA.

More information

Visit the CTPS website at www.ctps.co.za for the most recent information about club activities and meeting details. The website was the winner of the last four PSSA website competitions for clubs.

Click here to read the society's history in the book *Celebrating 125 years of the Cape Town Photographic Society*.