



Photographic Society  
of  
Southern Africa

# **NATIONAL CONGRESS**

**7 - 12th OCTOBER 1996  
BLUE WATERS HOTEL  
MARINE PARADE  
DURBAN**

**AGFA** 



# PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA (PSSA)

## MISSION STATEMENT

The Photographic Society of Southern Africa (PSSA) was founded in 1954 as a non-profit organisation.

P S S A aims:

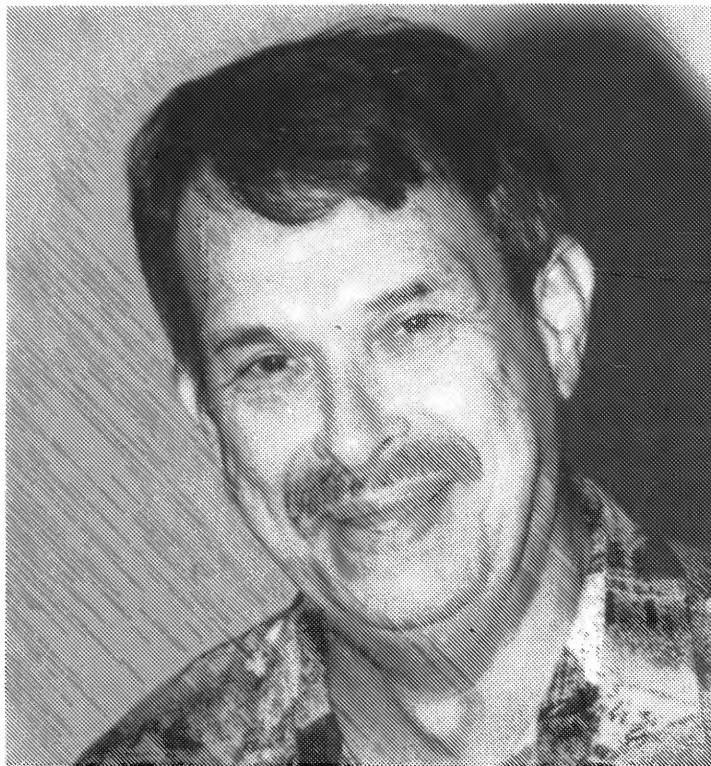
- to bring together all people interested in photography ;
- to promote the highest possible standards in photography ;
- to promote the interests of photography amongst its members.

*P S S A represents*

*its members and fosters their interest at all official levels*

For any further information write to the  
CHAIRMAN OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

P S S A  
P.O. BOX 370  
EDENVALE 1610



It was in 1991 that I stuck my neck out and booked Congress for Durban, knowing that Durban Camera Club were celebrating 75 years of operation. In those days, we had a pretty large and very active group of members. Since then, due to various factors, numbers dropped considerably, and so, as a director of PSSA, invited other clubs in the Natal region to join in to organize a "Celebration Congress". Although Durban North are in recess at the moment, I have had tremendous backup from members from Bluff CC who are celebrating 30 years, Amanzimtoti - 5 years, Maritzburg - 62 years and Westville - 17 years, not forgetting PSSA - 42 years!

They say that "Local is Lekker" and that is why most of our guest speakers at Congress have a connection to Natal, and so we invite you to sit back and learn from "the last Outpost of the British Empire". We have endeavoured to offer you a variety of subjects as well as photographic opportunities. Then in these changing times we are giving the major film makers an opportunity to introduce us to some of the new films and products that will be taking us into the future.

Thank you to all our speakers who have so willingly offered to share their time and expertise with us - Mel Gray, Philip van den Berg, Clive Passmore, Cuane Hall, Johan (JJ) van Heerden of the "Agape Group", Nico Myburgh, Malcolm Pearse, Ivor Migdol, Dr Kin Bensusan, Mike Loveridge and Mike Coppinger.

A big thank you to all our photographic friends who are joining us from the nine provinces and from beyond our borders, without you and your support, this Congress would not be possible. I mention one person for his "behind the scenes" phone calls of encouragement, Derek Pearman, you will never know how those regular phone calls uplifted my spirit, they always came just at the right time.

MALCOLM LEEMAN  
CHAIRMAN: CONGRESS '96

# DELEGATES PLEASE NOTE

*Welcome to "DURBS-BY-THE-SEA"*

*Our main objective is to make you feel welcome and to offer you a Congress filled with fun and fellowship during your stay with us. The success of the Congress depends on you and we would ask your kind co-operation regarding the following matters:*

- \* Please wear your NAME TAG: It is your ticket of access to all events, especially to lunch on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday ... without it, and you PAY.
- \* Kindly be prompt: lectures will start and transport will leave at the hour indicated in the programme. Please take your seats when you hear the signature tune.
- \* Make up your own party and book your seating for the BANQUET at the registration desk before Wednesday, 8.00 a.m.
- \* Please attend the AGM and FORUM - this is your opportunity to air your views and to offer constructive ideas on how to improve the service expected from PSSA.
- \* Please DRESS accordingly: there are specific requirements for the Civic Cocktail Party and for the Banquet.
- \* Please avoid wandering around Durban on your own, especially with photographic equipment dripping from your body ... it is safest, especially in these changing times, to take one or two friends with you.
- \* Only one bus will be provided to take guests to Tala Game Ranch which is just 60kms up the road - the owners of Tala have asked that we fill as many cars as possible as large vehicles will not be able to negotiate their roads. While their game viewing vehicles will be used, there are not enough to cater for our numbers. You are permitted to get out of your vehicles for photography, provided the three rhinos are not about, and beware of the ostrich! There are a couple of fairly tame animals, including a 3 legged warthog! Brunch will be prepared for us by members of the Maritzburg CC, they will be assisted by members of Amanzimtoti. So enjoy!

## PROF. MEL GRAY APSSA



Mel Gray is an active member of the Westville Camera Club, and has only been in photography since 1988. She gained her PhD in 1995 in Social work. She works at Natal University.

"When Malcolm first invited me to do a presentation for the PSSA Congress he said he would like me to talk about the work that I do and that led me to think about the relationship between my work and my photography. I love both with a passion. You might well ask what social work and photography have in common? I am going to demonstrate their common ground using a visual metaphor which will bring me to the eventual topic for my presentation:

"An Alternative View of Durban"

## PHILIP VAN DEN BERG FPSSA



Philip van den Berg is going to try to illustrate the ecological diversity of the Province, from the alpine belt of the Drakensberg to the tropical ecosystems such as the Mangrove Swamp Community along the North Coast.

"I have always been interested in nature, and photography served as a good tool to share this affection with others. This obsession is shared by our whole family (my wife and two sons). I obtained my FPSSA in 1994. Four of my photographs were among the top 50 (one a third place) of the annual AGFA Wildlife Awards. Last year (1995) one of my photographs was highly commended in the BBC Photographer of the Year Competition."

Philip is a member and past Chairman of Maritzburg Photographic Club.

## CLIVE PASSMORE FPSSA



Clive Passmore started serious photography nearly thirty years ago, when he joined the Durban Camera Club.

Originally interested in both **Creative and Macro photography.**

He became the first Honours worker in D.C.C. and achieved FPSSA in colour slides.

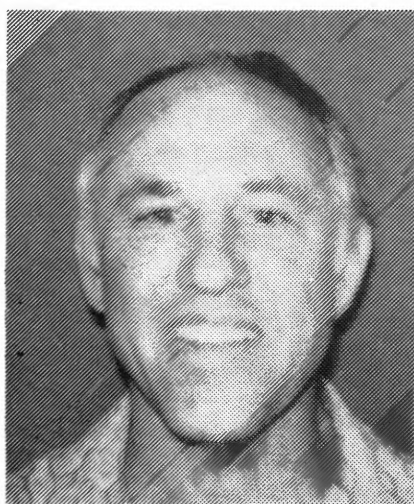
He has been a Judge at all of the Natal Photographic Salons over a period of years; at one stage he was a regular Salon exhibitor with successes in most of the S.A. Salons.

As the years progressed he has become more interested in photography as a tool, to create new and unusual images. To create a new, exciting image from mundane subjects, gives Clive a great deal of satisfaction!

### QUOTE:

"The scientist is intent on seeing accurately. The artist is also concerned in seeing, **but he also feels!** This is perhaps the difference between a technically good picture and one that has some feeling to it."

## CUANE HALL



Cuane Hall is an active member and is Vice Chairman of the East Coast Video Camera Club (formerly S.A. Video Camera Club).

Cuane has been into under water videography for some 3.1/2 years now and can boast of having had footage in many TV productions and News broadcasts ..... 50/50; Crown of Thorns; Tagging of Whale Sharks; Cape Vidal; feeding of sharks in the aquarium; under water hockey; the World Record number of scuba divers under water at any one time, and his greatest scoop was recording Penny Heyns breaking her World Record in Durban for Top Sport! So, with all this "in the can" you are about to learn more about:

"UNDERWATER VIDEOGRAPHY"

<b>MONDAY 7th</b>	08.30	A-V JUDGING
	13.00	A-V JUDGING
	18.00	CIVIC FUNCTION / CONGRESS OPENING
	20.00	TRADE SHOW ON POOL DECK      CASH BAR
<b>TUESDAY 8th</b>	06.00	FUJI PHOTO RALLY
	11.00	DURBAN, The Alternative Viewpoint - Mel Gray APSSA
	12.00	KWAZULU NATAL WILDLIFE - Philip van den Berg FPSSA
	13.00	LUNCH
	14.00	CREATIVE COLOUR SLIDES - Clive Passmore FPSSA
	15.30	INTERCLUB SLIDE RESULTS
	16.15	UNDER WATER VIDEOGRAPHY - Cuane Hall
	18.30	HONOURS & AWARDS GET-TOGETHER 18th Floor, SUNDECK (by invitation)
20.00	HONOURS & AWARDS SHOW	
<b>WEDNESDAY 9th</b>	08.00	AGFA PROFESSIONAL PRODUCTS - Don Shaw
	09.30	UMGENI RIVER BIRDPARK - Whysall's Print Comp.    Tea and Scones
	10.45	CONGRESS PHOTO FOLLOWED BY "BIRD SHOW"
	12.00	"AGAPE" - Johann (J J) van Heerden APSSA
	13.00	LUNCH
	14.00	PSSA AGM & FORUM
	15.30	DIRECTOR'S MEETING AND FREE TIME
	17.30	AGFA WILDLIFE AWARDS COCKTAIL PARTY & PRESENTATION OF PRIZES - Limited Nos.
20.00	JABULA CHALLENGE	
<b>THURSDAY 10th</b>	08.00	ILFORD HARBOUR CRUISE
	09.30	BROWSE AT "B.A.T." CENTRE (Bartel Art Centre) and Tea
	11.30	FUJI - Advanced Photo System - Malcolm Ryan
	13.00	LUNCH
	14.00	A FEW ZULULAND BIRDS, Their Ways and Their World - Nico Myburgh
	15.30	Mt. KILIMANJARO - Rev. Malcolm Pearse FPSSA
	19.30	HUNTERS OF THE MIST - Rev. Malcolm Pearse FPSSA
<b>FRIDAY 11th</b>	09.30	THE MAGIC OF BUTTERFLIES - Ivor Migdol FPSSA
	11.00	GEMS OF PHOTO HISTORY - Rev. Dr. Kin Bensusan Hon. FPSSA
	12.00	WHERE TO FROM HERE? - Malcolm Loveridge
	13.00	LUNCH
	14.15	THE NEW EKTACHROME FILMS - Grant Bester
	15.45	INDIAN DANCE & CULTURE
	19.30	LUANGWA - Mike Coppinger
	21.00	PHOTO RALLY RESULTS
<b>SATURDAY 12th</b>	06.30	KODAK TALA GAME SHOOT! and Braai Brunch
	19.30	FORMAL BANQUET & PRIZE GIVING

**PLEASE SUPPORT OUR SPONSORS WHO SUPPORT PSSA  
WITHOUT THEIR HELP, THIS CELEBRATION CONGRESS  
WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN POSSIBLE**

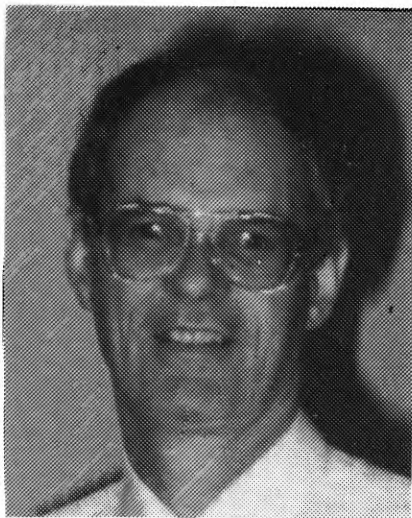
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*We thank the Mayor of Durban  
and the City of Durban for their hospitality,  
Support and Sponsorship.*

A special thanks to the members of  
THE PHOTOGRAPHIC CLUBS OF THE PSSA NATAL REGION.

For further information write to:  
The Secretary, PSSA Natal Region  
P.O. Box 37258  
Overport 4067





## DON SHAW

Don Shaw has been in the photographic field since 1958. After a period overseas, he returned to South Africa and joined the sales team of AGFA in 1975. He has been sales manager in Durban since about 1980. He will be telling us about:

"AGFA PROFESSIONAL PRODUCTS"

## JOHANN (J J) VAN HEERDEN APSSA

Johann van Heerden is a well known Cape photographer and co-presenter of the popular Namaqualand Photographic Workshops at Kamieskroon.

He is a protégé of the world renowned Canadian photographer, Freeman Patterson. Johann will be conducting the "Agape" presentation.



## MALCOLM RYAN

Malcolm Ryan is divisional director of **Fujifilm Imaging and Information**, and will be speaking to us on the Fuji Advanced photo System.

## NICO MYBURGH

Nico Myburgh - Photographer and Ornithologist, was born and brought up in the Cape Province, having spent much of his early years in Somerset West and on the farm "Klavervlei" in the district of Fauré. He was curator of the Helderberg Nature Reserve for many years and was also a member of the Cape Town Photographic Society.



Nico is now undertaking in depth studies of the Birds of Natal, and will take us through the life cycle of some of the more interesting species of birds to be found in Zululand. The title of his talk is: A Few Zululand Birds - Their Ways and Their World.

## REV. MALCOLM PEARSE, B.A. FPSSA, ARPS

The Rev. Malcolm Pearse is acknowledged as one of the foremost out-door photographers in the country, and is best known for his beautiful pictures of the Drakensberg. He grew up in the foothills of the 'Berg, and still spends much of his time there. He supplied the photographs for his father's three books on the Drakensberg (including the classic, "BARRIER OF SPEARS"), and in addition published his own work of art, "A CAMERA IN QUATHLAMBA", some years ago.

Malcolm's love of nature is an overwhelming feature of his character and one cannot doubt his sincerity in wanting to share this with others.

An expert in audio-visual programmes featuring the synchronized continuous projection of slides, Malcolm has delighted audiences throughout the Republic with his shows.

In 1976 he was awarded his Fellowship of the South African Photographic Society, the first person in South Africa to have been given this award in the Slide-Tape sequence category. This led to an invitation to London's International Festival of Diaporama, where two of his programmes were screened amongst the world's 50 Best.

Two years later he was awarded an Associateship of the Royal Photographic Society of Great Britain. This is one of the highest honours in the Photographic world. The Royal Photographic Society is the oldest and most highly esteemed photographic society, and maintains the very highest standards at all times.

Malcolm has linked his skill as a photographer to his love of mountaineering, and this led, in 1978, to yet a further honour, when he was invited to England to address the British Mountaineering Conference, which meets every two years and which attracts the top mountaineers from all over the world.

In recent years he has devoted himself to a ministry in audio-visual presentations which reveal the glory of God in creation; to environmental conservation; and leading groups of people into the Drakensberg to experience first hand what he has grown so dearly to love.

## IVOR MIGDOLL FPSSA

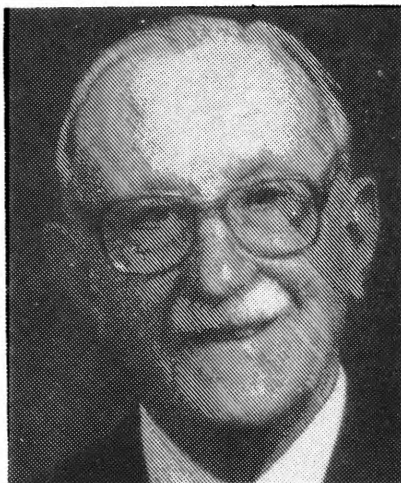


Ivor Migdoll was born and raised in Kenya and it was during school holidays spent on the butterfly-rich East African coast that he acquired his love for the fascinating insects. What started as a schoolboy interest soon became a serious hobby and after joining his father's safari company in 1964, he was able to pursue butterflies in all parts of East Africa. In 1971 he came to South Africa.

After qualifying and gaining his commercial pilots licence in the USA, Ivor now lives in Durban. Over the past 17 or 18 years he has travelled over 500,000 kilometres with collecting net and cameras in search of butterflies and wildlife photographs to add to his personal library.

Ivor has been a member of the Durban Camera Club, and is now an active member of Bluff Camera Club. He gained his FPSSA two or three years ago. He has been involved in club and salon judging, and has many salon acceptances. He is currently supplying slides to local as well as overseas slide libraries.

## DR A.D. BENSUSAN HON FPSSA

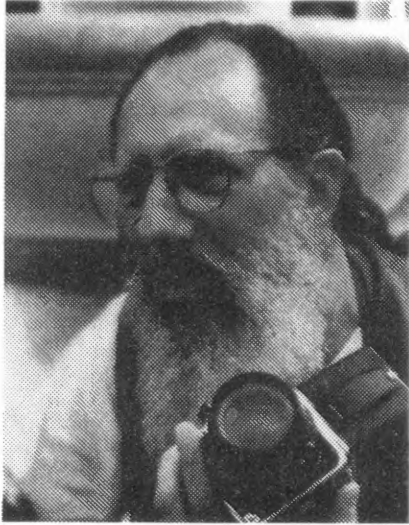


Kin Bensusan is a foundation member of the PSSA, and I understand he chaired the first PSSA Congress that was held --- in Durban! He holds numerous awards - Hon FPSSA, Hon PSA, FRPS, FPSA, Member of London Salon, Hon EFIAP (Belgium), Hon FIIPC (India), FBPA (Biological Photographers America). Honorary Membership of Salons, Clubs and Societies in South Africa and overseas (as far afield as New Zealand). He is also Chairman of Bensusan Museum and Library of Photography in Johannesburg.

With so many "distinctions", he hardly needs an introduction to us all. In his talk he hopes to take us from the first extant photograph to modern era, and earliest days of PSSA with the first Congress in Durban.

Although he does have a Port Shepstone address, he resides much of his days in Somerset West.

# MIKE LOVERIDGE



"I studied photography at Durban Technikon, receiving a Certificate in Photography in 1982. It was while studying, for this award, that I had the good fortune to see the Ansel Adams Exhibition, at the Market Theatre; thereafter taking seven years off club activities to perfect his technique.

I started photography at club level, in the Wildlife Photographic Section where I served on that committee, following this with "time" on the committees of the Durban Camera Club and the South African Postal Portfolio Club.

I have also been invited to appear on Salon judging panels. I have written extensively for PSSA's IMAGE, DCC's PAN and SAPPC's PHOTOPOST. Also I have lectured photography at Congella Technical College, the Central Technical College, and currently I am holding photographic discussions at Durban Camera Club.

Recently I have printed exhibitions for the "Italian Consulate", the "Seychelles Tourist Board" and the "Killie Campbell Museum" under Agfa sponsorship.

Under the title "Mike Loveridge Imaging" I am investigating photography and the electronic image.

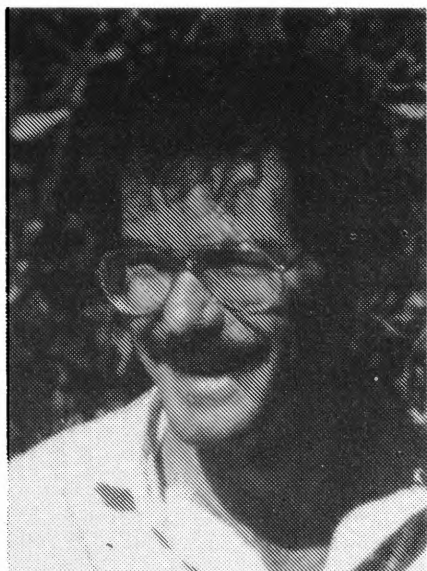
Briefly, I will try to answer the following questions:

Is the digital / electronic image photography?  
Will it replace photography as we know it?  
How do we deal with it at Club level?

The above, I think, addresses the hopes and fears of all photographers today. Much has been written about the electronic revolution, with the "goal posts" being moved almost on a daily basis. At times I wonder if we're playing the same game.

As I have said before I would rather instigate change than have it forced upon me. To make decisions based upon ignorance is foolhardy and will surely lead to the demise of club photography in an already difficult and traumatic time. Photography is light based. Let us not lurk in the shadows, but rather move forward enlightened. Don't let us be grouped with Delaroche ... Art is not dead, neither is Photography!"

## MIKE COPPINGER



Mike Coppinger and Jumbo Williams are preparing a book on Zambia's remarkable Luangwa Valley, one of Africa's most exciting wildlife areas. In pursuit of this endeavour Mike and Jumbo have each spent six months in the valley during which periods photography was their prime focus. Their field work culminated in a dramatic 800 kilometre canoe trip which had never before been attempted.

The photographic experience to be shared by Mike depicts the wonderful diversity of Luangwa wildlife, the spectacular contrast between wet and dry seasons and a view of local tribal life.

Mike Coppinger boasts no formal photographic training. With no serious photographic experience behind him, he and Jumbo Williams determined to spend two years on the Zambezi and to produce a photographic book on the river. They spent the whole of 1986 and 1987 on safari and plugged some gaps in their material in 1989. "Zambezi - River of Africa" was duly published by Struik in 1991, in "coffee-table" format, and reprinted in 1994.

Photographs taken during the expedition have been published in numerous magazines. Mike and Jumbo, in conjunction with Multivisio (now "Magic Box"), produced a suite of audio visual programmes which they have presented in many venues around South Africa.

What success Mike has achieved with his photography he ascribes to having got to interesting places, investing time in the field, and paying attention to detail.

## GRANT BESTER

Grant Bester has especially flown down from Johannesburg and will inform us about the new Ektachrome films.

*The following article was edited from an article written for PAN in 1071 to mark the Golden Jubilee of DCC.*

## PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

A meeting of all those interested in pictorial or research photography - amateur or expert - will take place on Friday next in the Town Hall Basement (Smith Street entrance) at 8 o'clock

Business: to discuss the advisability of forming a Camera Club .... BE THERE!

On August 19th, 1921, a most gratifying turn-out of 21 persons attended his historic meeting, in the Town Hall Basement. After hearing Mr H Reed Thorpe outline the purpose of the meeting, the chief feature of which would be fortnightly or monthly meetings for the discussion and demonstration of various photographic processes; for constructive criticism of each others work; and in general for mutual help in all things photographic.

It was unanimously decided to form the Durban Amateur Photographic Society. Dr George Lindsay Johnstone FRPS, was elected first President and Mr W O Cooke as Vice President and Mr Reed Thorpe as Secretary Treasurer. The annual subscription was half-a-guinea (R1.05) as at 1971's figures. At the second meeting on September 9th it was decided to hold its first outing to the Bluff on Sunday 11th September.

Attendance at the early meetings was most gratifying, the average being 25. The recently formed Society was nothing if not ambitious and held its first exhibition in the furniture gallery of Messrs Harvey Greenacres store in West Street from 28th to 30th November 1922. It was open to all comers throughout the Union. Close to 300 pictures were hung, including 36 kindly loaned by the Royal Photographic Society.

Owing to a gradual falling in attendance at meetings, the matter was raised at the 60th meeting of the Society in May, 1924, when it was resolved that the Society was to be wound up forthwith. It was not until October 1926 that the Durban Amateur Photographic Society was revived. The old office bearers were re-elected with Mr L Hunt as Chairman. Mr J R Walker, one of the founder members of the club proposed the name change to Durban Camera Club. This was approved.

After many years of wandering from one place to the next, the club leased a room at 47 Club Arcade in April 1929. This lasted until March 1937, when the building was sold to be demolished. We again travelled around for many years, going from one meeting place to another.

For many years the clubs activities were brought to the notice of its members in the form of a roneod sheet headed "club notices". Another red-letter event in the history of DCC was when we hosted the first Photographic Congress of Southern Africa from 24th to 26th July, 1954.

In 1965 the first exhibition of member's work was held in the Arthur Smith Hall of Natal Technical College. The exhibition was such a great success that it was decided to repeat the exhibition each year, but unfortunately after the 3rd function, members interest seemed to flag and the response to entries was so poor that the scheme was dropped.

The story of Durban Camera Club is a long one and has not yet ended. It's work is of a high standard and members are gaining Honours, but a club does not run itself and, unless the members are willing to do a little bit more than simply enter competitions, there may not be much of a story to write . . . . .

# PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA CELEBRATION CONGRESS

The Photographic Society of Southern Africa (PSSA) is a non-profit organisation established to promote amateur photography in Southern Africa. Photography is looked upon as a cultural activity with both an artistic and scientific impact.

The organisation operates at club level divided into regions. There is a board of directors (16) who manage the national body. The board members are the divisional chairman (others are also co-opted). The day to day running is done by the Executive. The clubs are autonomous and PSSA is not prescriptive, however, certain rules are laid down by the PSSA to conform with the International body (PSA, FIAP and RPS) in respect of exhibition and competition standards.

There are approximately 90 clubs. Members can be direct members of PSSA or are affiliated via their clubs. PSSA have 1500 members and probably 5000 members who are members of clubs and not PSSA. Clubs operate by grading workers from 1 star/beginner/novice to advanced, magister or honours. There are up to 15 intermediate steps. Work is exhibited on a monthly basis and workers advance according to a grading/points system. The one star normally needs to have focus and exposure as criteria, basic composition is added for the 2 star criteria and strong composition for 3 star. From the 4 star and above, additional factors such as colour saturation, atmosphere, mood, action are added.

For club photography, pictures are awarded either a COM, Gold, Silver, Bronze or No Award. These standards are allocated points which are used for promotion.

Competition photography is also done on a national and international basis by the clubs who have salons (exhibitions). These exhibitions are judged/assessed by three persons who are active workers. The pictures are scored out of five (Total 15). The top 20-30% are then accepted for exhibition. Points are also awarded here which is important for promotion and advancement from the 4 star plus categories.

Photography is done mainly in the slide medium. Other mediums are the colour (hand) prints, monochrome (hand) prints, commercial or machine or trade prints, audio visual and video. Each section may be subdivided into natural and pictorial. Competitions may be held in any sub category, i.e. photo journalism, photo travel, contemporary, portraits, birds, landscapes, etc. These are normally broadly stated so that a large portion of competitors may participate.

The awards which are given are normally in the form of a few films (usually sponsored), medals, certificates. No cash is involved. Some competitions have floating trophies.

The PSSA also has regional congresses, a national convention and congress annually. The salons exhibitions which are held are for the general public. Exhibitions are also held at schools, shopping centres and shows to promote photography. In this respect slides usually get a good support because of the explicit time and venue involved. Prints have caused problems because of the nature of exhibitions boards which are required. Audio visual is cumbersome, like prints, because of the equipment required.

The PSSA also award honours to its members. An Associate and Fellowship may be awarded to advanced workers on application in various mediums. The applicants have to exhibit work of a certain standard to get this award. Honours are also awarded for Service and Published Works.

The clubs are the mainstay of the society and it is here where the membership drive, marketing of photographic equipment and material is done. Lectures are usually given monthly (sometimes two or three times) to the members by authoritative persons on various subjects.

The Society does not promote or push any specific product or brand of equipment, film or paper. However, it is here where discussion takes place of the qualities and attributes of various products/brands. A good product which meets the needs/expectations of the user will market itself. Sponsorship is always acknowledged but it is left to the individual to decide what should be purchased.

**Without the Power of Colour,**

**life is empty.**

**AGFA**

