



# Krugersdorp Camera Club

Photography as a hobby since 1930



*Far left:  
Former chair  
D. Mego in  
action.*

*Left: A club  
weekend to  
Lesotho in  
2012.*

## Krugersdorp Camera Club

*Where photography is a hobby*

The Krugersdorp Camera Club was founded in 1930 and has been active ever since. Records show that the club existed as early as 1931. A photograph was entered in a competition during 1931 under the name of Mr. Cecil Coath ... winning him the first prize!

The club originally consisted of approximately five enthusiasts who met regularly in a small room behind the current E.J. Adcock's-building (see below). **Cecil Coath** was most probably the first convener and is considered to be the founder of the club. **Brannie Penny** (left) and **Alf Shear** counted among the earliest members of the club. Both played an important role in the history of the club.



**Alf Shear** managed the photographic section at Adcock's Pharmacy (below) and he was always able to give good advice to members on the choice of film or cameras. His slides were generally of outstanding quality and he produced several winners. This small pharmacy, founded by E.J. Adcock at the end of the 19th century, became Adcock Ingram, the second-largest private pharmaceutical manufacturer in South Africa.

**Brannie** was club chairman for many consecutive years and later became the first lifelong Honorary President of the club. He was one of the founding members of PSSA and served as its first





*Left: An outing to a rally in 2001.*



*Right: An outing to the 2010 FIFA Soccer World Cup.*

Honorary Secretary for many years and PSSA President from 1960 to 1961. He joined Krugersdorp Camera and Cine Club in 1934 and soon after became the club's secretary. He served as the club's chairperson almost continuously from 1940 to 1960 and was later awarded the club's first Honorary President title. Read more about him [here](#).

Originally, only black-and-white print workers were active in the club and the first colour print, *Viv*, was entered by M.A. Vorster in May 1974. Later, the movie and slide sections followed and in October 1984 a new section for *Slide Stories* was introduced to the monthly competitions.

The club bloomed during those early years and more than one monthly meeting had to be held in order to judge the masses of entries.

### **The 1960's era**

During the late fifties there were quite a number of enthusiastic club members. A 16mm enthusiast was **Ken Sanders** — the man with the friendly smile — who often acted as one of the judges in the ciné section of the club.

Another keen photographer was **Harold Theunissen**. On many occasions members gathered in his study to “talk shop” or discuss slides. He was a top judge and had an incredible knowledge of cameras and always gave valuable advice to the younger members of the club.

One of the most enthusiastic members was **Jack Burrell**, who owned an electrical business in town. Many judging sessions were held at his home and Mrs. Burrell always supplied tasty refreshments. Jack produced some fantastic slides — remember, in those days cameras were not as automatic as they are today. Getting a decent exposure was quite a challenge. It was necessary to use hand-held light-meters and the film had very little latitude towards over- or under exposure.

**Will Jacobs**, who managed the photographic section of his father-in-law's shop, Hinks, was another photographic specialist. Will sold many a camera to club members at a small deposit and monthly repayments.

In the early years club meetings were held at the Luipaard Hotel. The manager put the lounge upstairs at the club's disposal and many pleasant evenings were spent at this venue. In June 1964 the Lecture Room of the Town Hall, Krugersdorp, became the new venue for the monthly meetings.

In December 1961 *Amateur Photography* published an article by Krugersdorp club secretary (and later chairperson) Roy Reinecke about close-up photography. Read the article [here](#).

### **Hosting salons and winning awards**

Over the years Krugersdorp members achieved many excellent salon results and won several impressive awards.



*Left: In 2012 'Camarague Horses' by Gerrie Rall was chosen as the Best Salon Open image.*

*Right: 'Red-billed Teal taking off' by Gerbus Vermaak was the winner of the PSSA Silver Medal in the Annual website competition for in 2020.*





**90<sup>TH</sup> CELEBRATION  
KRUGERSDORP CAMERA CLUB  
FIFTEENTH NATIONAL DIGITAL SALON**



Presented by: **KRUGERSDORP CAMERA CLUB**  
Presentation Medium: **Projected Digital Images (PDI)**

PSSA Approved: Patronage 'B' 2021/07



- In August 1966 a slides panel submitted by Krugersdorp Camera Club was the runner-up in the Interclub Salon organised by the Port Elizabeth Camera Club. Eighteen clubs from across the country participated in the salon by submitting a panel of ten slides. The slide Creation by Pierre Eksteen was the individual runner-up.
- In 2005 the first Krugersdorp National Digital Salon was held and in 2025 the club hosted this salon for the 19th consecutive year.
- In 2012 Krugersdorp was the winner of the Senior section of the PSSA Interclub competition and the image Carmargue Horses by Gerrie Rall was chosen as the Best Salon Open image of the year.
- In 2020 the club hosted the 15th digital anniversary salon to celebrate its 90th anniversary.
- In 2020 Krugersdorp Camera Club member Gerbus Vermaak was the winner of the PSSA Silver Medal in the Annual website competition for his image Red-billed Teal taking off entered in a monthly competition.
- In 2023 Krugersdorp webmaster Jeroen Luyk received an award for the club website being the 2nd Runner Up in the PSSA annual website competition.

### Chairpersons Since 1950

B N Penny	Jan 1950-Jan 1960	W Du Plessis	June 1985-June 1987
P N Sparks	Jan 1960-Jan 1961	M Coetser	June 1987-June 1989
A Verster	Jan 1961-Jan 1962	PJ Eksteen	June 1989-June 1991
R T Reinecke	Jan 1962-Jan 1964	P Sparks (Jnr)	June 1991-June 1993
K Saunders	Jan 1964-Jan 1965	H van Kaam	June 1993-June 1995
D Mego	Jan 1965-Jan 1966	C Eksteen	June 1995-June 1997
P Eksteen	Jan 1966- Jan 1967	W Van ZYL	June 1997-June 2000
J Opperman	Jan 1967- Jan 1968	W Hancox	June 2000-June 2001
G Grohmann	Jan 1968-Feb 1968	H van Kaam	June 2001-June 2002
J Opperman	Feb 1968-Jan 1969	W Hancox	June 2002-June 2003
B Bredenkamp	Jan 1969-Jan 1971	W van ZYL	June 2003-June 2005
P Eksteen	Jan 1971-Jan 1973	E Reinecke	June 2005-June 2007
AKS vd Merwe	Jan 1973-Jan 1974	J Luyk	June 2007-June 2009
P Eksteen	Jan 1974-Jan 1975	G Nieuwoudt	June 2009-June 2012
P Mulder	Jan 1975-Jan 1976	J Croukamp	June 2012-June 2014
J Opperman	Jan 1969-Mar 1976	C Kok	June 2014-June 2015
J Dingshoff	Mar 1976-Mar 1978	A Sutton	June 2015-June 2017
B J Botha	Mar 1978-Mar 1980	J Strydom	June 2017-June 2019
K Frank	Mar 1980-June 1982	C Ross	June 2019-June 2024
T Cronje	June 1982-June 1985	P Sparks (Jnr)	June 2024 -



*Far left top: Piet Sparks taking the traditional sip from the Van Vollenhoven trophy at the 2001 AGM.*



*Far left below: Piet Sparks and Wally Wallis in November 1973.*



*Left: Piet Sparks Jr with the club trophies to be awarded in 2022.*

Several of the past chairpersons and founding members are remembered at the annual prize giving functions by the trophies that bear their names. For example:

- Studio Sparks Trophy for Prints-mono 2 star
- Doug Mego Trophy for Prints - mono Senior/ and Best of the Year Digital Travel Senior
- Andre Verster Trophy for the Digital 1 star winner
- Cecil Coath Trophy for Digital Masters Winner
- Alf Shear Trophy for the Best of the year Digital Nature senior
- Burrell Trophy for Best of the year Digital PJ and Sport Junior
- Dingshof Trophy for Best of the year Digital PJ and Sport Senior
- Cobus Eksteen Trophy for Special Set Subject
- Branny Penny Trophy for Prints - Best Landscape

**Piet Sparks** (senior and junior, see above) of Studio Sparks played important roles at Krugersdorp Camera Club. The photographic studio was established in 1960 by Piet Sparks (Snr), who served several terms as president of the club before his demise in October 2011. Piet Sparks (jnr), the current owner of the studio, has 30 years practical experience in photography. He completed his National Diploma at the Pretoria Technikon and has since been active and creative in his photography at Studio Sparks. He also lectures on photography on occasions. He served as chairperson of the club from June 1991 to June 1993 and was re-elected in June 2024.

**Corine Ross** APSSA(Vers), EPSSA, was elected the first female chairperson of Krugersdorp Camera Club in June 2019 and chaired the club for the next five years. She was elected a PSSA Director in 2020, where she is currently responsible for the salons portfolio. Her work as PSSA Salon Director earned her a PSSA Service Award in 2024. Corine joined Krugersdorp Camera Club in 2016 and was elected a committee member in 2018, with responsibility for the portfolios Salon Director, Media, PSSA Matters and Training. Before joining Krugersdorp she served on the committee of the former West Rand Photographic Club (WRPC). She regularly presents a variety of workshops and courses for all interested junior and intermediate photographers. Corine is also a member of AV Makers and have been promoting AV's at the Krugersdorp Camera Club.

## More information

Visit the Krugersdorp Camera Club website at <http://www.kameraklub.co.za>.

The club Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/KameraKlub>

Contact the club at [info@kameraklub.co.za](mailto:info@kameraklub.co.za)