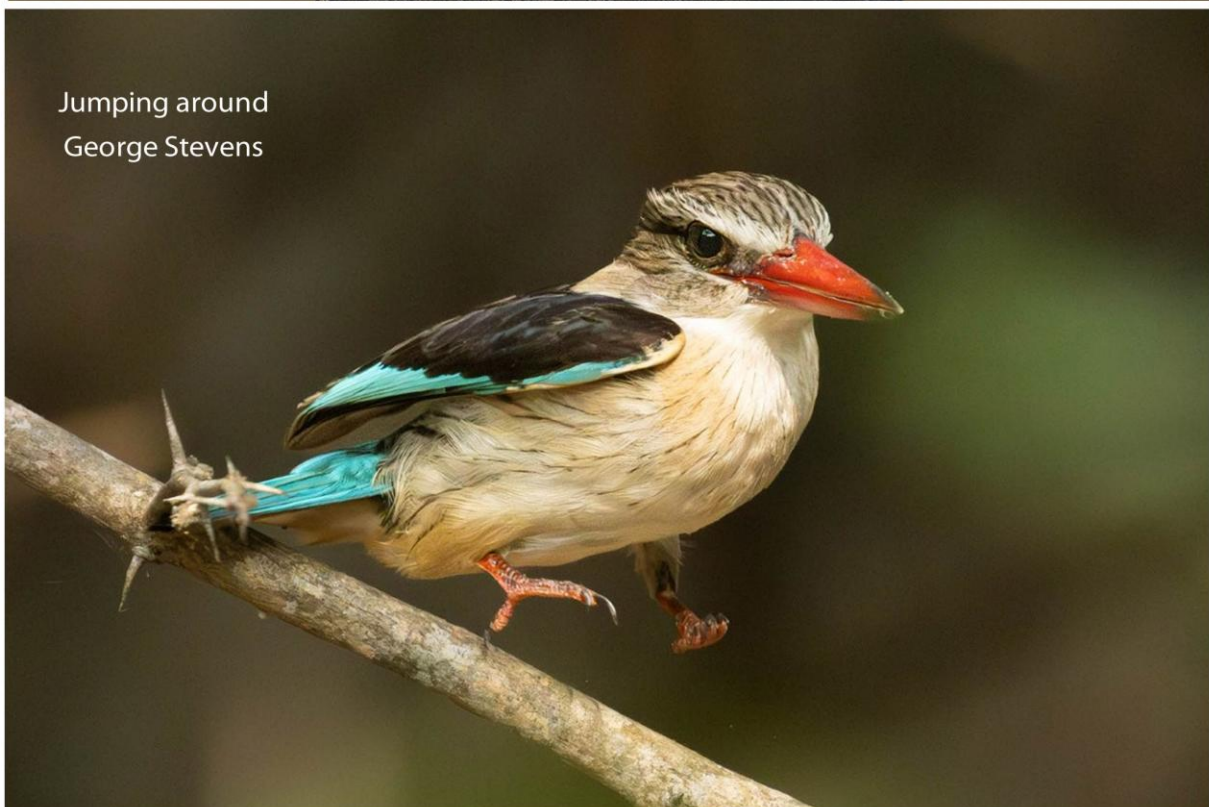


OCTOBER 2025

[WWW.PRETORIAPHOTOGRAPHIC.CO.ZA](http://WWW.PRETORIAPHOTOGRAPHIC.CO.ZA)



Time for grooming  
Fransie Stevens



Jumping around  
George Stevens



## PRETORIA PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

[www.pretoriaphotographic.co.za](http://www.pretoriaphotographic.co.za)

Photo-Vault-Online Entries

[www.photovaultonline.com](http://www.photovaultonline.com)

### COMMITTEE MEMBERS

President/Formal Meetings/Public Relations	Thelma v.d. Schyff	president@pretoriaphotographic.co.za thelma@aeternoplanning.com	082 784 0392
Vice President/Internal Liaison/ New Members	Petra Haselmaier	petra.haselmaier@gmail.com	082 780 6905
Informal Meetings / Photo Café	Santie van Eck	santie@wildspanhunting.com	076 733 4466
General Secretary Competition Secretary	Sonja de Klerk	ppsannouncements@gmail.com sonsdeklerk@gmail.com	082 778 9249
Treasurer Finances/Membership	Frans Mohr	pps.finances@gmail.com	083 227 8676
Website/Social Media	Carina Munday	carina.munday@gmail.com	082 322 9895
Special Interest groups	Santie van Eck	santie@wildspanhunting.com	076 733 4466
Photovault Team/ TOP	Karin du Toit Boshoff Steenekamp	pvo@pretoriaphotographic.co.za	082 5009301 083 633 9063
Outings/Workshops	Giuseppe Carbonatto	outings@pretoriaphotographic.co.za	082 332 5748
e-Flash Editor	Joan Fouché	joan.fotracon@gmail.com	082 410 7678
Refreshments	Diana van de Wiel	eswdiana@gmail.com	083 527 8237

ORGANISATION	WEB-SITE LINK
Steve's Digicams (Reviews)	<a href="http://www.steves-digicams.com">www.steves-digicams.com</a>
Digital photography review	<a href="http://www.dpreview.com">www.dpreview.com</a>
Photoanswers (Practical Photography)	<a href="http://www.photoanswers.co.uk">www.photoanswers.co.uk</a>



PPS is affiliated with PSSA

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## NEW MEMBERS

Petra Haselmaier our Vice President is the contact for answers on new membership and the workings of the Pretoria Photographic Society or PPS. Please contact Petra at [petra.haselmaier@gmail.com](mailto:petra.haselmaier@gmail.com) As per usual, the annual subscription fees are reduced by half for members who join after March.

## WHAT'S HAPPENING

<b>7 October 2025</b> <b>Hybrid meeting</b>	Photo Café Meeting@ NG Church Lynwood Sussex Avenue 18H30
<b>21 October 2025</b> <b>Hybrid meeting</b>	Formal Meeting @ NG Church Lynwood Sussex Avenue 18H30
<b>Judges:</b> September 2025	Brendan Hohls Chantelle Janse v. Rensburg Tony Roberts

## PROMOTIONS

Karin du Toit 3\* to 4\*

CONGRATULATIONS!!!!!!

PLEASE REMEMBER when you receive a promotion to update the Star Level on PhotovaultOnline before your next entry. These levels should just be a single digit: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5.

### KNOWING YOUR STATUS IN STAR RATING

Photovault can now generate this information. Please verify your rating to ensure that Photovault is correct. Please contact Sonja de Klerk at [sonsdeklerk@gmail.com](mailto:sonsdeklerk@gmail.com)

## END OF YEAR CATEGORIES 2025

The competition categories for the Junior and Senior streams are:

Landscapes	Outdoors scenes, seascapes, urban/cityscapes.
Visual Art Photography	Achieving an artistic effect through application of creative techniques.
Nature	Living, natural organisms (undomesticated) in their natural habitats. Plants and animals included. <b>Excluded:</b> Scenic/ landscapes/ cityscapes. <b><i>Images may not be manipulated and must conform to the PSSA Ethical Guidelines</i></b>
Macro and Floral	Includes both <b>Macro</b> (Close-up pictures of any subjects) and <b>Floral</b> (Flowers in their natural state or under controlled conditions)
Photojournalism	Newsworthy, story-telling pictures including sport. <b><i>Images may not be manipulated</i></b>
Portraits	Includes both Animal and Human portraits.
Pictorial	Open category. It includes Architecture.
Monochrome	In this category the subject is totally open. Colour images will be disqualified.
Best of the Year	All category winners will compete automatically
Most Versatile Author	Entrants shall submit a panel of five (5) images each selected from five (5) different categories.
Most Golds and COM's	The member who achieved the most Gold and COM awards in monthly competitions, as recorded in the results of the competitions
Article for e-flash	Most articles written for the e-Flash

SET SUBJECTS 2025		
MONTH	SET SUBJECT	DESCRIPTION
JANUARY	Rust	Own interpretation
FEBRUARY	Tattoos	Own interpretation
MARCH	Self-portrait telling us something of interest about you	
APRIL	Slow shutter speed	Own interpretation
MAY	Still life with something old/vintage	
JUNE	Emotions (Life, death, joy, anger)	
JULY	Creative – portray the title of a song from the 70's/80's	
AUGUST	Seasons	Own interpretation
SEPTEMBER	Abstract nature with rocks/sand patterns	
OCTOBER	Product photography for a commercial	

MONTHLY ENTRIES FOR CLUB COMPETITIONS:	
<p><b>Dear PPS club members</b></p> <p>When entering your photos for the formal evenings, could you please remember the following:</p> <p>Only members who have judged the previous month are allowed to enter more images.</p> <p>You are allowed <b>one entry</b> in the <b>SET SUBJECT</b> and <b>four entries</b> in either of the following categories:</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. OPEN</li> <li>2. VISUAL ART/FINE ART</li> <li>3. SCAPES</li> <li>4. PHOTOJOURNALISM AND STREET PHOTOGRAPHY (According to PSSA rules)</li> <li>5. NATURE (According to PSSA rules)</li> </ol>

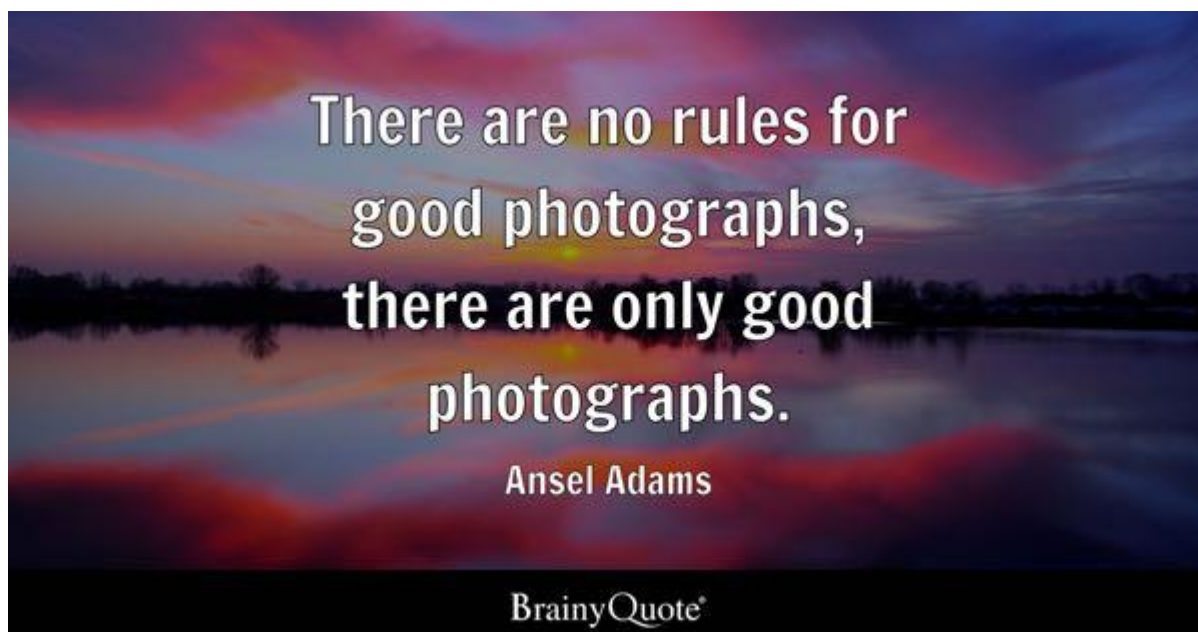
SERVICE TO THE CLUB:	
<p>You can serve the club by providing two or more of the services listed below throughout the year. Remember you must provide <b>regular</b> service to the club for it to qualify.</p>	
<p><b>List of services:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Judging at the monthly competitions.</li> <li>• Writing articles for the e-Flash.</li> <li>• Writing tutorials for the e-Flash.</li> <li>• Assisting with / hosting outings.</li> <li>• Assisting with / hosting workshops.</li> <li>• Assisting with / hosting tutorials.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Providing snacks and refreshments for informal meetings.</li> <li>• Organising a speaker or speaking yourself for either the informal or formal meetings.</li> <li>• Photographing the year-end function.</li> <li>• Organising the end of year function.</li> </ul>



<b>NATIONAL SALON DATES</b>	<b>2025</b>
2 <sup>nd</sup> Kroonstad Fotoklub life in Monochrome PDI Salon	11 October 2025
7 <sup>th</sup> Rustenburg National Digital Salon	25 October 2025
2 <sup>nd</sup> F-Stop Salon	8 November 2025
Vanderbijlparkse Fotografiese Vereniging Digital Salon	15 November 2025
7de Brandpunt Fotoklub Nasionale Salon	10 January 2026
5 <sup>th</sup> Bethal PDI Salon	17 January 2026
10 <sup>th</sup> Swartland PDI & Print Salon	31 January 2026
2 <sup>nd</sup> Highway Salon	7 February 2026
Ermelo Fotoklub 5 <sup>th</sup> Digital Salon	21 February 2026
14 <sup>th</sup> National AFO Salon	7 March 2026
PECC AV Festival	7 March 2026
29 <sup>th</sup> PSSA Up & Coming National Salon	14 March 2026
SAVAS 4 <sup>th</sup> Digital Salon	21 March 2026
PSSA International Salon of Photography	28 March 2026
Visit <a href="http://www.pssa.co.za">www.pssa.co.za</a> for more information and entry forms.	

All salon results administered by Photovault are registered automatically by the system. Please ensure correctness of your details in Photovault regularly. Those salons, not using Photovault still need to be captured manually. Contact Sonja de Klerk if there are any discrepancies, at [ppsannouncements@gmail.com](mailto:ppsannouncements@gmail.com)

We would like to motivate all members to take part in the PSSA salon and international scene where possible. Advancement from 3-star and 4-star require a few salon acceptances. The salon acceptances that are used to calculate promotions have a cut-off date 14 days before the meeting, to allow the competition secretary to update files. Acceptances after this date will be considered the next month.



## SALON ACCEPTANCES

### Durban Camera Club

#### Sonja de Klerk

All mine  
Pile of Babel  
If I could turn back time  
Eye on the goal



Water of a duck

#### Giel du Toit

Low Tide

#### Karin du Toit

Portal to other worlds

#### Boshoff Steenekamp

Juvenile Black-winged Kite

### NPC 30<sup>th</sup> Birthday

#### Giuseppe Carbonatto

My passion  
Going for gold  
Raiding the klip dagga  
I'm posing  
Scanning the surface

#### Sonja de Klerk

Flying parts

#### Karin du Toit

Dinokeng butterfly

### PSSA 28<sup>th</sup> UP & COMING

#### Charles Costello

Yellow-billed Oxpecker  
Chobe sunset



Best Buddies

#### Karin du Toit

Perfectly perched  
Feathered Fish



Time in a bottle

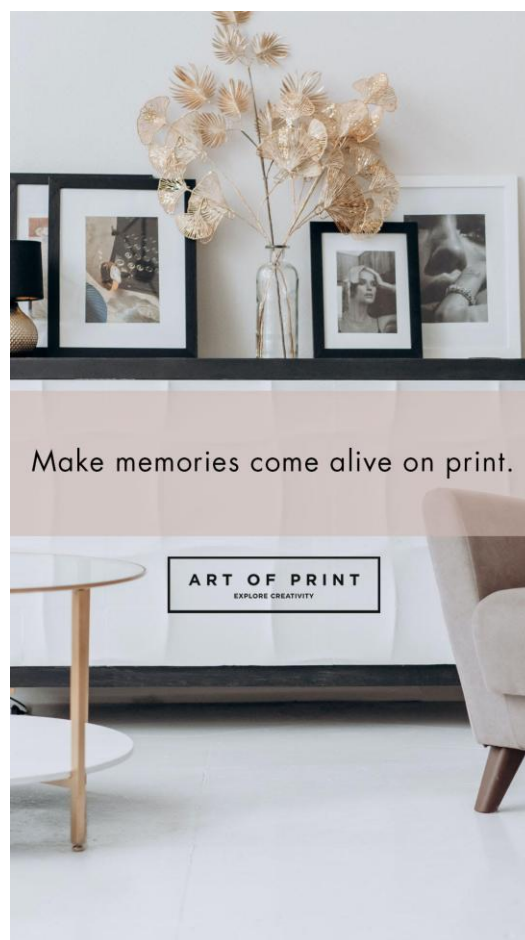
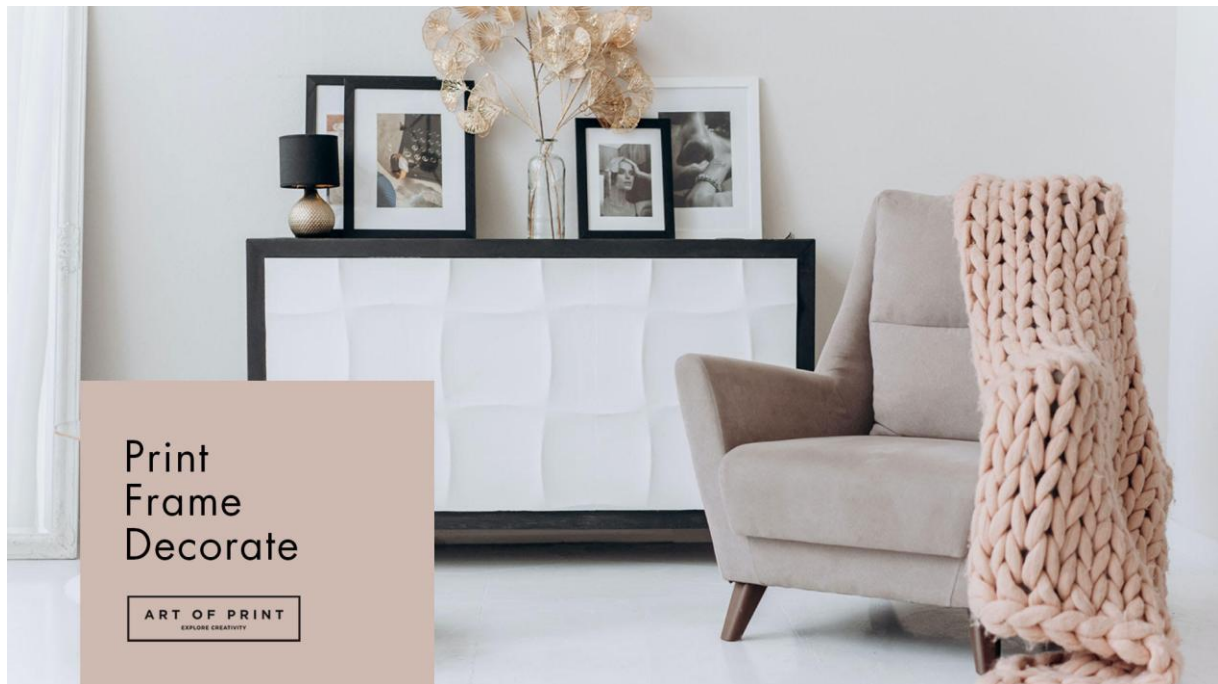
#### Carina Munday

Vintage Connections



Certificate of Merit Timeless Silence

## Outdoor Photo:

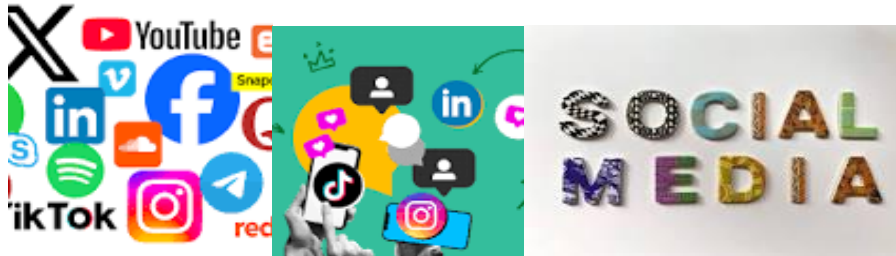


Contact Nr: (012) 348 3693/[www.outdoorphoto.co.za](http://www.outdoorphoto.co.za)



# President's Page - Thelma v.d. Schyff

## The social media storm in our lives



We have to acknowledge the influence of social media in our day to day goings on.

We are all familiar with platforms like Facebook, Instagram and Pinterest where we can post our memories, ask questions, show our travels and find out what is going on in the world.

This however, is far from the only ones. I ventured to research it a bit and found sites, some I didn't even know existed.

Some of the top Social Media Sites and Platforms:

1. Facebook - A broad platform for connecting with friends and family, sharing updates, photos, and videos (3.07 billion users)
2. YouTube - Primarily for video content, including entertainment, education, and news.
3. Instagram - Focused on photo and video sharing, often with a focus on aesthetics and lifestyle (2 billion users)
4. TikTok - A platform known for short-form video content and trends.
5. Snapchat - Popular for sending disappearing photos and videos, especially among younger users. (850 million users)
6. X/Twitter - A platform for real-time updates, news, and public conversations through short messages.
7. Pinterest - A visual discovery engine for finding and sharing ideas, often used for inspiration
8. Reddit - A collection of online forums where users can share content and discuss various topics.

Is it all bad? Many will say so. Many will say it is 50/50. Many will shoot it down as rubbish.

The advantage is that it provides connectivity, builds community and is affordable advertising.

The cons can be disinformation or misinformation, sleep disruption, mental health impact, child sex exploitation.....

The fact is that we will never be able to cover most of what social media means. Therefore, we focus on one or two platforms we feel we can manage.

The original layout on Instagram used to be the square cropping. After some time, vertical and horizontal formats were added. This feature allowed photographers on Instagram to showcase their pictures with a minimal format edition. One problem arose, however - Vertical images are much larger than their horizontal counterparts.

In a space where you have only a fraction of a second to catch your audience's attention, this size difference can be crucial. As a result, photographers on Instagram started publishing vertical crops of their photos and sharing the full version on their stories. Eventually, the carousel post feature became the preferred alternative to display horizontal photos in full size within the Instagram feed



Pinterest post with ideas for decorating



Photo of oil painting posted on Reddit

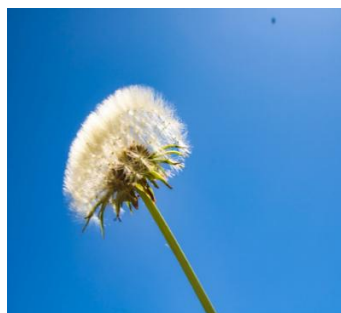


Photo posted by a photographer on TikTok



Snapchat photo

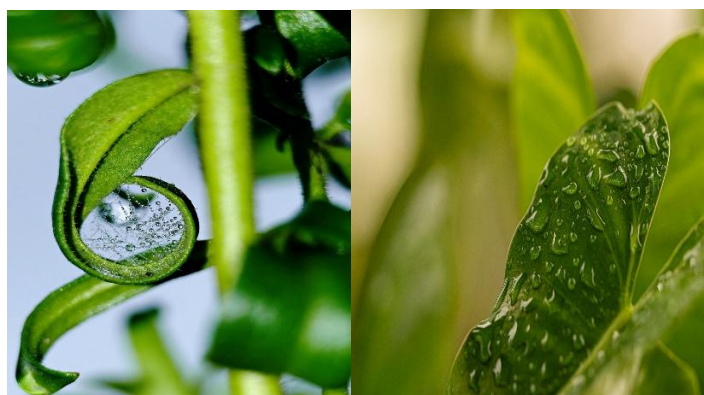
There is a platform for everyone. You choose what works for you.

However, for now, I want to pause on Instagram for photography purposes. That is what works for my generation.

Creativity is important. The overstaged scenes are a thing of the past. Show it as it is. Be done with fake realities. Try and add more personal content for instance when taking a beautiful nature shot. Start writing longer captions talking about the image's backstory, show some behind the scene's footage.



When posting on Instagram find your niche that you are passionate and comfortable with. Develop your own style and focus on a specific genre or subject. Give your images a specific look.



Waterdrops on leaves



Wings



Flowers

Furthermore, you should only publish images you are proud of and follow a consistent publication schedule. The average posting pace on Instagram for photographers is at least once a day, not including temporary content.

**Some 10 tips for posting on Instagram (humbly provided)**

1. Be authentic and true to yourself.
2. Find an audience you can maintain.
3. Show the whole picture with carousel posts.
4. Understand the power of video content.
5. Share your knowledge with others.
6. Make the most out of Instagram Stories.
7. Say goodbye to geotagged locations.

The information out there is overflowing with tips, examples, invitations, you name it. Should you need more inspiration, go to dear old Google and ask for assistance and read with a discriminate eye.

Till next time when the Jacaranda flowers paint Pretoria lavender and purple.

Thelma



## Winning Images September 2025



*Best Open:  
I wish I could fly  
Johan Ver Loren  
van Themaat*

*Best 1 Star:  
Missing lovers  
Lee Hutton*



*Best 2 Star:  
So many feelings  
Kagiso Langa*

*Best PJ:  
Cut to the clay  
Sonja de Klerk*







*Best 3 Star  
& Best Junior:  
See what I caught  
Mary-Ann Costello*



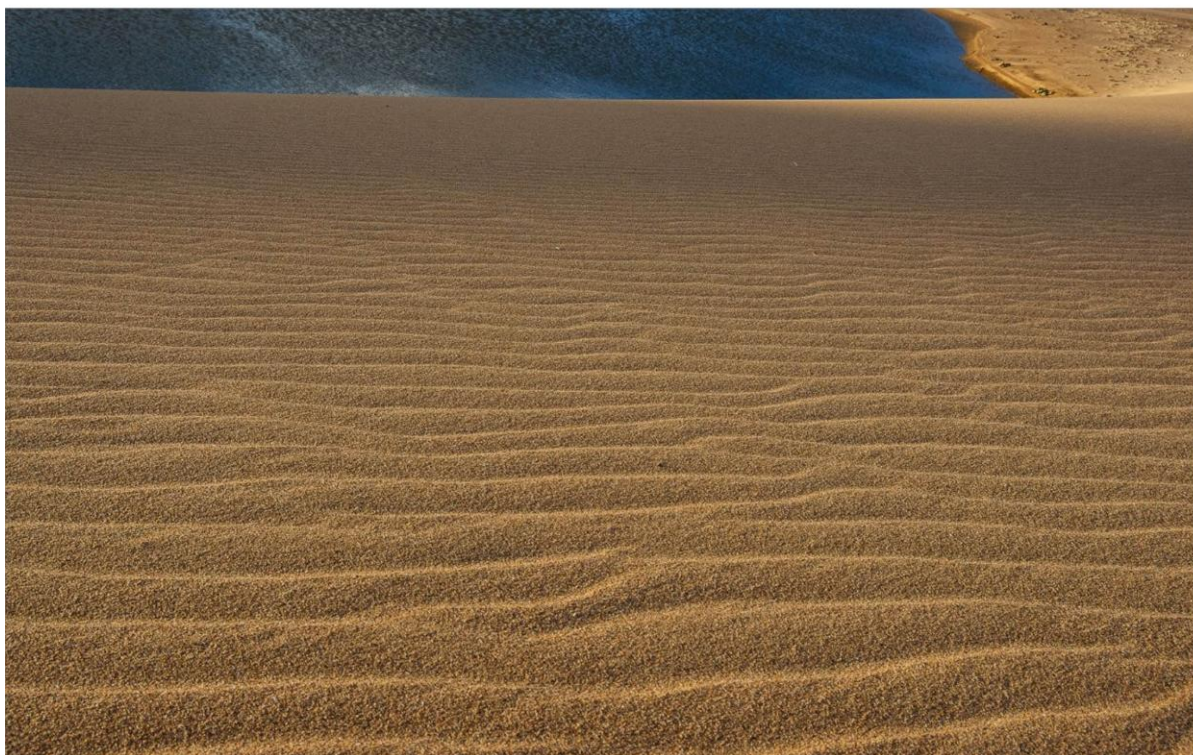
*Good Nature:  
Pretty bird  
Karin du Toit*





*BestSet Subject*  
*Best 4 Star & COM*  
*Best Senior*  
*Heart of sand*  
*Fransie Stevens*

*Good Set Subject*  
*Wind Art*  
*Karin du Toit*





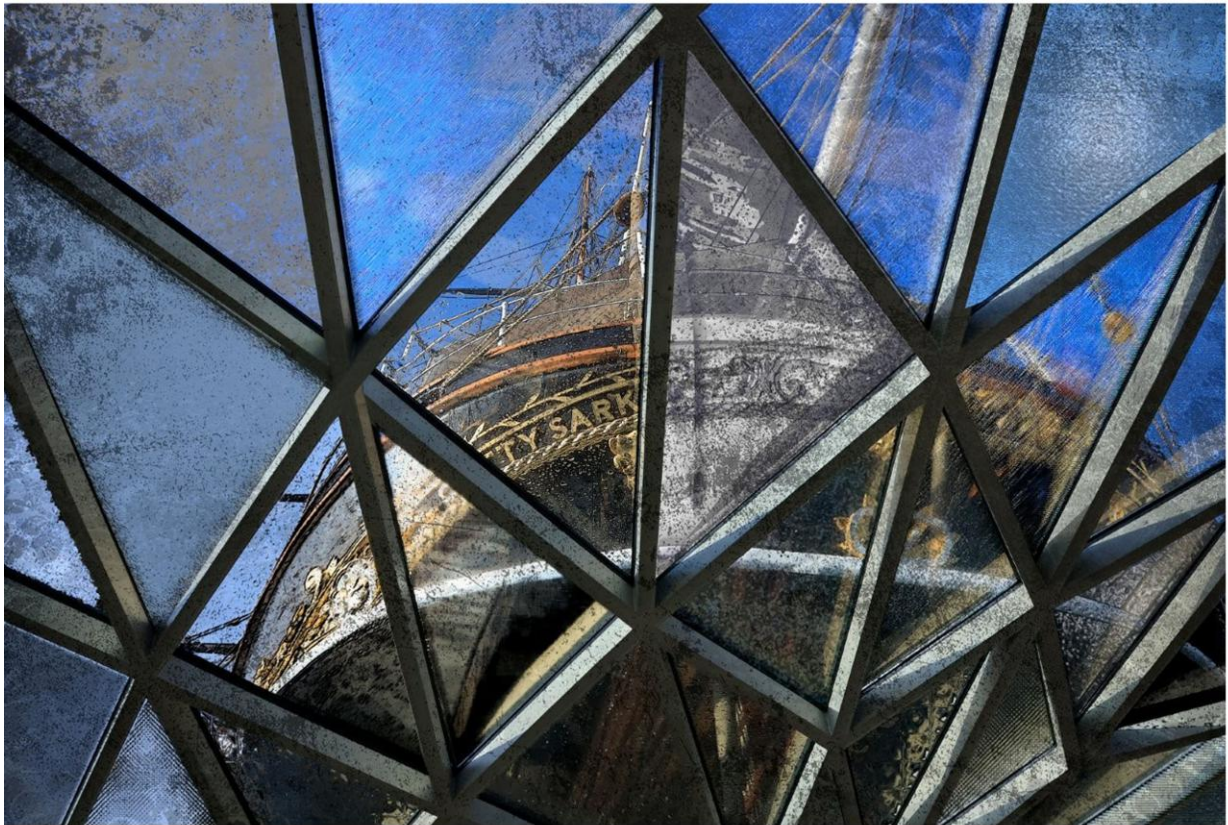


*Best 5 Star  
Best Scape & COM:  
Kogel Bay  
Johan Hosten*

*Good Set Subject:  
Desert Plant  
John Tapuch*







*Best Visual Art  
Creative Cutty Sark  
Linda Martin*

*Good Visual Art  
Zanzibar Pier  
John Tapuch*





*Best Nature:  
Dragonfly Hover  
Johan Hosten*

*Good Nature:  
Coming from  
the hairdresser  
Fransie Stevens*





## Good Photos:



*Juvenile Black Winged Kite  
Boshoff Steenekamp*

*Focused ears  
Fransie Stevens*







*About to land*  
*John Tapuch*

*Seemingly Afloat*  
*Johan Hosten*





*Are you done yet  
Mary-Ann Costello*

*Baboons refreshment  
George Stevens*







*Living a  
balanced life  
Fransie Stevens*



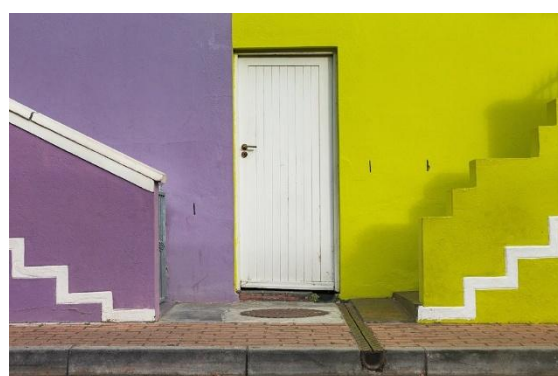
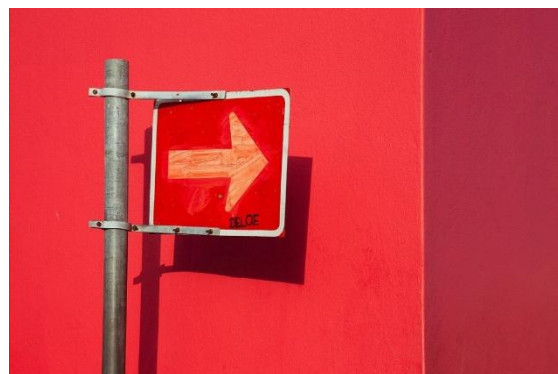
*The dance of  
the Lisianthus  
Sonja de Klerk*

*All fall down  
Charles Costello*



# Results of the 2025 PPS Photo Story Competition

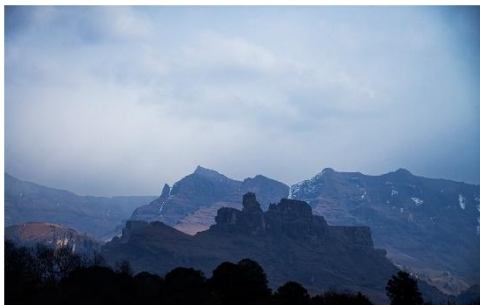
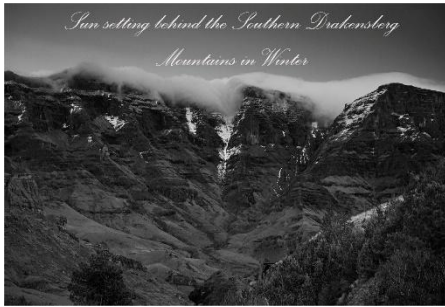
Winner  
Johan Hosten  
Colours in the BoKaap





## Runner-up: John Tapuch

### Sun setting behind the Southern Drakensberg in Winter



## The other Participants

Boshoff Steenekamp	Flyball Competition
Charles Costello	Wanna Play?
Christelle Swart	Dancing with the deep
Fransie Stevens	How stars are made
George Stevens	Unsuccessful attempt
Gerrit van Rooyen	Street Photography in Central China
Linda Martin	Little Venice to Camden Market by Canal Boat
Mary-Ann Costello	This is my turf!
Pine Pienaar	The trick of the Poinsettia

Thanks for your participation.  
Pine Pienaar

## Article:

# Every photographer's dream - the good photograph – Thelma van der Schyff From June 2015 e-Flash

Our set subject for this month set me thinking about structure. I realised we need structure in everything in our lives. Without structure there is chaos. Without structure you will fall prone to procrastination, be disorganised and then get discouraged. Think about it – your working day can be like this, your household can be like this, but then so can your photography be like this. Many a despondent photographer has felt a holiday or outing has been a total waste of time because he did not think about what and how he wanted to tackle this.

People might fear that adding structure to their lives they will make them lose creativity and flexibility. This is in fact just the opposite. Structure can help you create more time for those things that add value to your life

How do you do that? I always say to my family: How do you eat a whale? One bite at a time. Do not make it too complicated or too big. You may find it proactive to create reminders for yourself. In the days before I was relieved of all my camera equipment, I had a little red book in my camera bag where I wrote reminders for myself about settings for different subjects and occasions. When I would come upon a difficult setting, I will look in my little red book and see what worked last time.

In photo composition we have four structural elements: shape, form, pattern and texture. If you want to shoot different images being elevated above the ordinary, you will have to identify potential - shoot different angles, change the lighting etc.

### Shape

Shape is two-dimensional. You can identify many subjects by shape without colour of surface visible. A strong silhouette will show a car, cat or building clearly. Keep the angle in mind – there is

always an angle that will make you subject more identifiable. It helps if the background is clean without noise.

### Form

Form is three dimensional. It gives depth to a subject. Here the use of light and shadows are very important. The ideal light is side light which is not too direct or too strong. Diffused light can be of great advantage, such as a partly cloudy day to emphasize form.

### Pattern

This is a powerful tool. Patterns are all around us every day. A good photographer learns to see it wherever he goes. This refers to repetition of shapes, texture or form. This topic is endless. It can be chimneys on roofs, rows of trees, windows, buildings.... a telephoto lens as well as a macro lens will come in handy.

### Texture

Texture is often something you can literally feel with your fingers, like the bark of a tree, a rough brick or wall, or an animal's fur. These photo's often isolate a small piece of the object, and shape and form are no longer relevant. These are often your macro shots. Light and shadow play an important role here, as the this emphasizes the texture.



*Ruin by Ken Rockwell*

In an article by Ken Rockwell, he demonstrates some of the principles by means of his photograph called "Ruin." Here we have a big red diamond in the middle, surrounded by blue-grey. The big rectangle is the obvious positive space. The big blue-Gray around it is called negative space. Red jumps out at you, especially when put in front of blue.

He used an ultra-wide lens which gets darker in the corners. This effect is called falloff. It causes the centre to be relatively brighter adding emphasis.

Some pictures need to be in colour. If this picture was in black and white there would be little or no contrast between the red and the blue. This picture grabs you even as a thumbnail. That is a good guideline – it must be striking even as a thumbnail. This means aiming to get it right in the camera. Do not rely too strongly on Photoshop to get a striking image.

When a photographer knows how he got his winning photograph, he will be able to achieve the results again at the next opportunity. That is where structure comes in. The person who gets a winning photograph by luck will not be able to repeat his performance.

My last word is like the last word in a joke, called a punch line. An image needs a punch line to be striking. It is like the good ending to a movie. The punch line is what you find after you look around the image. It can be a row of soldiers and at the end of the row one is doing or wearing something different.

You even get double punch lines. That is when you have something in the photograph reacting to something else in the photograph.

A photographer called Jay Maisel has photos where you have a train window with a person looking out the window, but then you will notice someone in the next car looking back in surprised response to the first person. The double punch line.

Enjoy structuring your lives, and enjoy this extraordinary picture by Jay Maisel. It is worth it to go onto the web and look at the work of Jay Maisel. Lots of joy.



Fondest regards

Thelma



# PPS Birthday list:

January	February
Marianne Ver Loren van Themaat 1	
Mary-Anne Costello 4	
Gerrit van Rooyen 19	
March	April
Christelle Swart 6	Casper van Eck 11
Fransie Stevens 21	Carina Munday 24
Linda Martin 22	
Charles Costello 30	
May	June
Boshoff Steenekamp 16	Joan Fouché 16
Detlef Basel 23	Lloyd Munday 18
Frans Fouché 30	
Marius Coetzee 30	
July	August
Diana van de Wiel 4	Tony Roberts 6
Kagiso Langa 8	Sonja de Klerk 10
Robin Miles 9	Lee Hutton 15
Johan Ver Loren van Themaat 21	George Stevens 16
	Johan von Willich 21
	Ann Roberts 23
	Brigitte Hansen 25
	Bibi Andrews 27
	Petra Haselmaier
September	October
	John Tapuch 1
	Ken van Wyk 5
	Thelma van der Schyff 8
	Huan Zhongjie 12
	Chantelle J van Rensburg 24
November	December
Santie van Eck 6	Giuseppe Carbonatto 1
Johan Hosten 9	Pine Pienaar 26
Karin du Toit 11	
Giel du Toit 15	
Frans Mohr 21	

Please send your date of birth to Joan Fouché if your name is not on the list.