

e FLASH

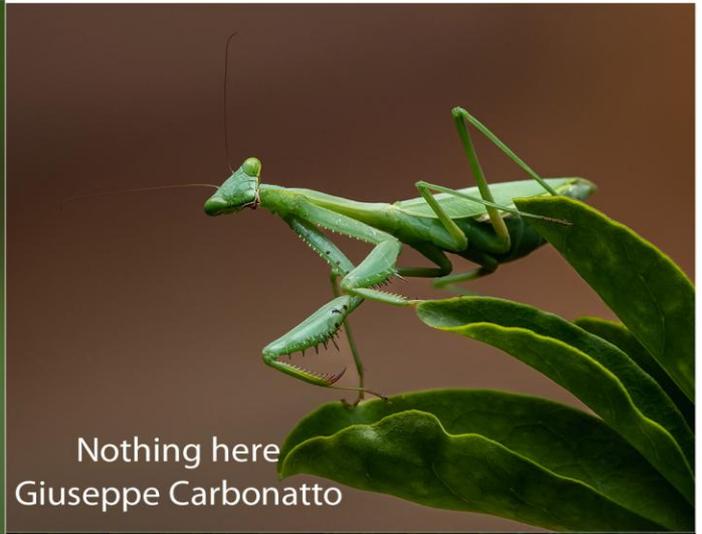


JANUARY 2026

WWW.PRETORIAPHOTOGRAPHIC.CO.ZA



Red edging
Joan Fouché



Nothing here
Giuseppe Carbonatto



Grass
Gerrit van Rooyen



PRETORIA PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

www.pretoriaphotographic.co.za

Photo-Vault-Online Entries

www.photovaultonline.com

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ORGANISATION	WEB-SITE LINK
Steve's Digicams (Reviews)	www.steves-digicams.com
Digital photography review	www.dpreview.com
Photoanswers (Practical Photography)	www.photoanswers.co.uk



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 As per usual, the annual subscription fees are reduced by half for members who join after March.

WHAT'S HAPPENING	
6 January 2026 No Meeting	No Photo Café Meeting@ NG Church Lynwood Sussex Avenue
20 January 2026 Hybrid meeting	Formal Meeting @ NG Church Lynwood Sussex Avenue 18H30
Judges: November 2025	Des van Tonder Leon Heyes Terry Burne Maritzburg Camera Club

PROMOTIONS

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

END OF YEAR CATEGORIES 2026

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. Excluded: Scenic/ landscapes/ cityscapes. <i>Images may not be manipulated and must conform to the PSSA Ethical Guidelines</i>
Macro and Floral	Includes both Macro (Close-up pictures of any subjects) and Floral (Flowers in their natural state or under controlled conditions)
Photojournalism	Newsworthy, story-telling pictures including sport. <i>Images may not be manipulated</i>
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 2026

MONTH	SET SUBJECT	DESCRIPTION
JANUARY	Bugs in action	Macro
FEBRUARY	Triadic colours	Three colours equally spaced on the colour wheel, forming a triangle. Colourful & creative
MARCH	Paint with light	Own interpretation
APRIL	Adrenaline junkies, action	Fast shutter speed
MAY	Show the shadow as more important than the subject	Time of day, position of the sun, simplistic shadows
JUNE	Street photography	Candid techniques, storytelling
JULY	Feature a well-known saying/idiom	Creative, abstract
AUGUST	A shape within a shape	Compositional technique of placing one shape inside another for a photographic interest
SEPTEMBER	Movement with people	Adjusting shutter speeds and long exposure shots to capture movement - to blur movement artistically. Image must include people
OCTOBER	Photo through a space	Leaves, pages of a book, pipe...)

MONTHLY ENTRIES FOR CLUB COMPETITIONS:

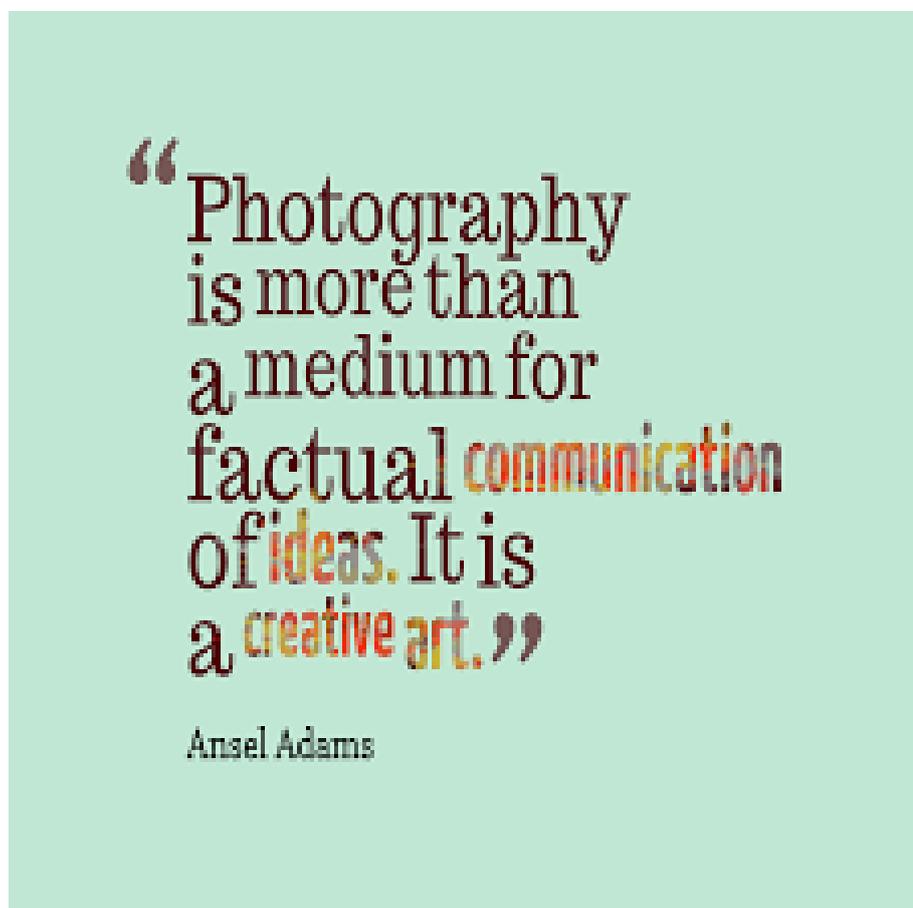
<p>Dear PPS club members</p> <p>When entering your photos for the formal evenings, could you please remember the following:</p> <p>Only members who have judged the previous month are allowed to enter more images.</p> <p>You are allowed one entry in the SET SUBJECT and four entries in either of the following categories:</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. OPEN 2. VISUAL ART/FINE ART 3. SCAPES 4. PHOTOJOURNALISM AND STREET PHOTOGRAPHY (According to PSSA rules) 5. Nature (According to PSSA rules)
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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 regular service to the club for it to qualify.</p>	
<p>List of services:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Judging at the monthly competitions. • Writing articles for the e-Flash. • Writing tutorials for the e-Flash. • Assisting with / hosting outings. • Assisting with / hosting workshops. • Assisting with / hosting tutorials. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Providing snacks and refreshments for informal meetings. • Organising a speaker or speaking yourself for either the informal or formal meetings. • Photographing the year-end function. • Organising the end of year function.

NATIONAL SALON DATES	2026
7de Brandpunt Fotoklub Nasionale Salon	10 January 2026
5 th Bethal PDI Salon	17 January 2026
10 th Swartland PDI & Print Salon	31 January 2026
2 nd Highway Salon	7 February 2026
Ermelo Fotoklub 5 th Digital Salon	21 February 2026
14 th National AFO Salon	7 March 2026
PECC AV Festival	7 March 2026
29 th PSSA Up & Coming National Salon	14 March 2026
SAVAS 4 th Digital Salon	21 March 2026
PSSA International Salon of Photography	28 March 2026
Visit www.pssa.co.za 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



SALON ACCEPTANCES

Vanderbijlparkse Fotografiese Klub Salon

Pine Pienaar



Shades of Grey



Namib Dunes



Leisure Time

John Tapuch

9.jpg

Desperate man

Sonja de Klerk

Paw pose

Cute is my name

Relaxed



Face to face

UPC CIRCUIT 2025

Sonja de Klerk

Salon 1

My froggy

Please check my teeth

Salon 2

My froggy

My tooth

Playing with my food

Salon 3

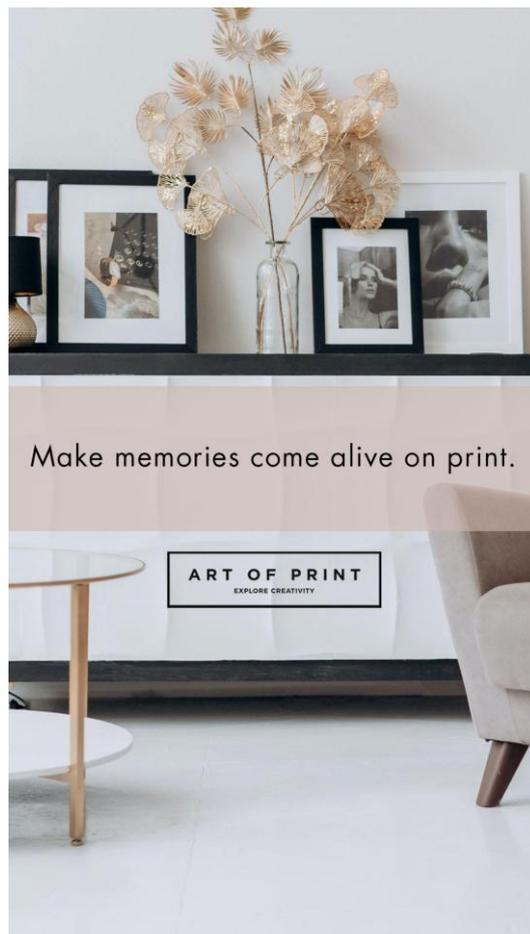
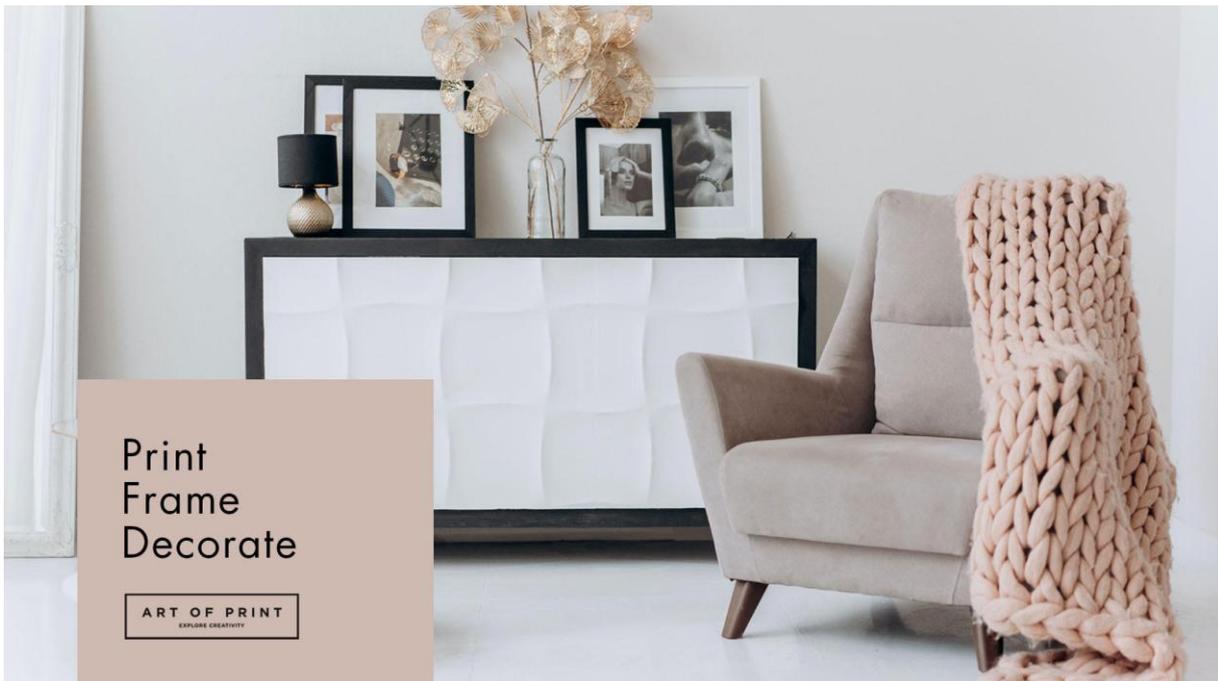
Playing with clay

It is still my ball



Spice it up

Outdoor Photo:



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

President's Page - Thelma v.d. Schyff

NEW BEGINNINGS.....

Welcome to a brand-new year filled with fresh inspiration, bold plans, and endless possibilities behind the lens! There is something wonderfully energising about turning the calendar to January — it gives us that gentle nudge to look forward, dream a little, and set a few realistic goals for ourselves as photographers.

One of the things that makes our club so special is *you* — our enthusiastic, supportive and wonderfully creative members. Photography is often seen as a solitary pursuit, yet we know that some of our best images (and certainly our best memories!) are made when we are out shooting together. In a world where going out alone is not always ideal or safe, our club gives us the chance to explore, learn and enjoy our hobby in good company.

This year, we look forward to many new opportunities: outings where we can chase light together, workshops that stretch our skills, themes that challenge us in unexpected ways, and plenty of moments where we simply enjoy being part of a vibrant photographic community. Whether you have been with PPS for years or have only just joined, I hope you will feel inspired to get involved, try something new, and celebrate the beauty all around us — one click at a time.

Those of you who went away for the holidays, most probably came back with images worth sharing. We are looking forward to seeing soulful seascapes, maybe brave surfers surfing the waves, some catching too much sun on a fishing boat, (looking like a tomato/crab/Christmas light). Others may have gone to visit family, resulting in warm smiles and gammon around the Christmas table. Do not forget about the opportunities in granny's delightful smile, your little niece lying under the tables with the dog or the swimming pool with many overjoyed family members enjoying the South African sun.

If, by any chance, you are aware of nice places to visit, workshops that will create learning opportunities, then also pass it along so that we can all share in the experience

Here is to a year of creativity, courage, friendship and, of course, unforgettable photographs.

Warm regards,

Thelma

Winning Images November 2025

Most Versatile Juniors

*Winner
Gerrit van Rooyen*



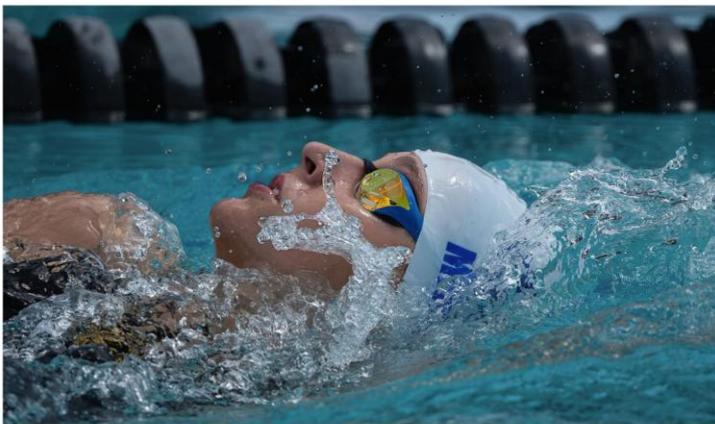
Most Versatile Juniors

*First Runner Up
Giel du Toit*



Most Versatile Seniors

*First Runner Up
Sonja de Klerk*



Most Versatile Seniors

*Winner
Giuseppe Carbonatto*



Winners November 2025



Gerrit & Sonja



*Petra, Fransie
& Carina*

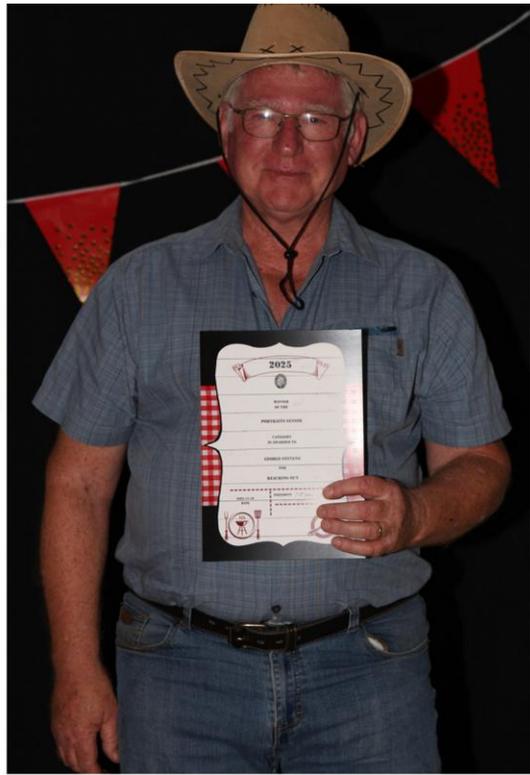


*All the
prizewinners*

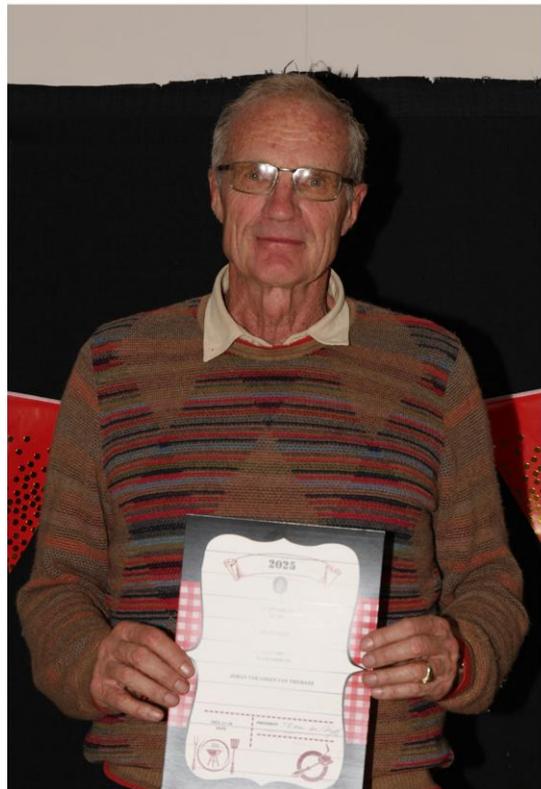
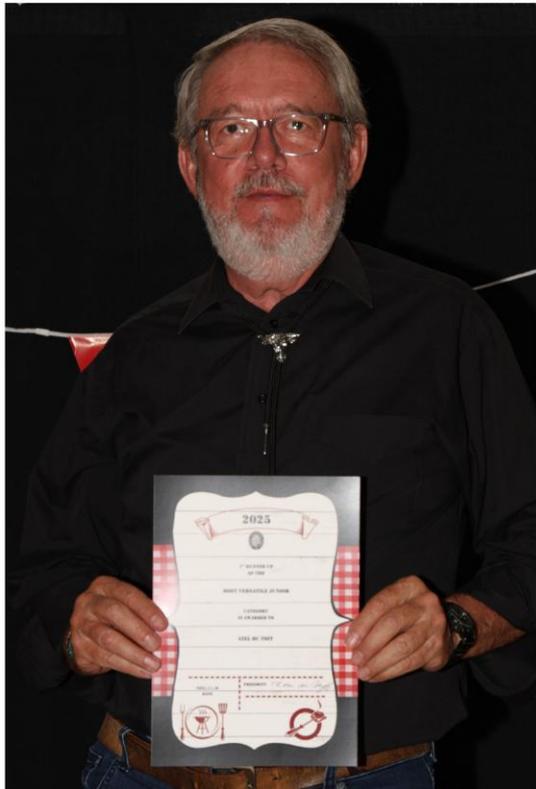


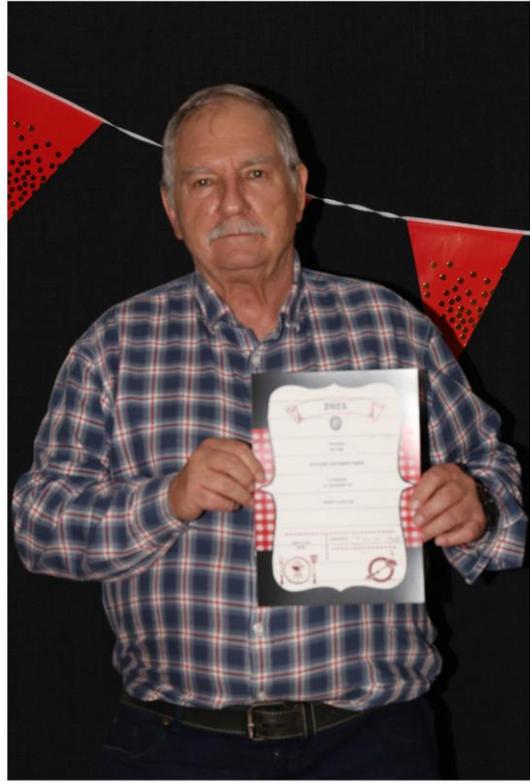
*Carina & Chantelle
Diana & Sonja*



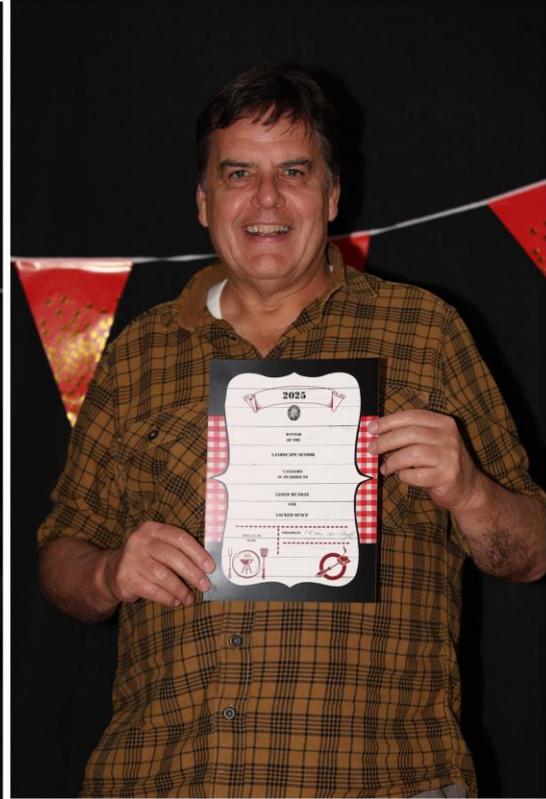


*Gerrit & George
Giel & Johan*





*Giuseppe & John
Pine & Lloyd*





Karin & Linda

Fransie & Sonja

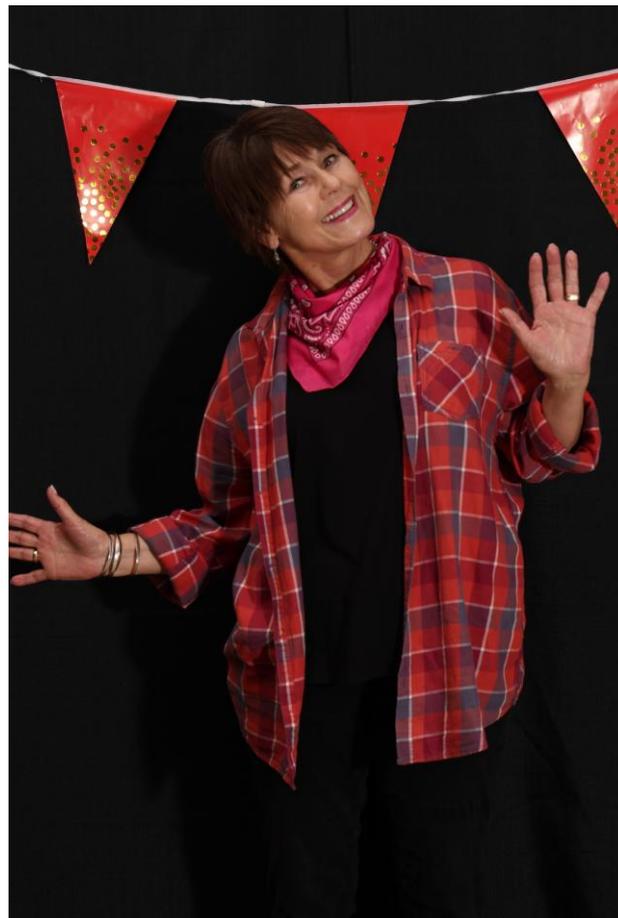
Giuseppe & Sonja



The American BBQ Function







Photos by Johan von Willich

Article:

The art of changing a seemingly normal uninteresting photo into a great image without doing that much post processing. – John Tapuch

It is the subtle changes that make all the difference.

For me, it is understanding in this digital age, how far one can burn and dodge and manipulate certain areas to achieve a desired image. The beauty of this technology is, if you do not achieve the results by simply experimenting and if the adjustments are not as desired one can reset and start again. Not like the old darkroom days, when one would have to do what you would hope are the estimated accurate burning and dodging times. Whilst exposing on the appropriate grade of contrast photo paper, if the results are not as expected, you would have to grudgingly dispose of it and start over again several times on different fresh unexposed sheets, until you achieved the desired results.

One of the major features and advantages, is that today one can pull back shadows and highlights that are seemingly too far gone by reducing shadows and increasing highlight detail by adjusting the appropriate sliders in the RAW section. Then fine tuning in Lightroom/Photoshop.

If you can find the time to fiddle around, experiment and understand the possibilities of Photoshop/Lightroom and try to watch some YouTube tutorials explaining some basic adjustments, you will be surprised at the results.

AI has its place in the retouching process, but not to introduce foreign elements like other images that were not created by yourself the author.

Where AI does play a part in the RAW section, is by removing noise. This gives the older SLR digital cameras the ability to compete to some degree with mirrorless cameras when it comes to high-speed photos, as it enables one to push the ISO. Where in the past, they were only capable of shooting up to ISO 1,600 before noise became evident. Now, this new introduction of AI Noise Reduction facility enables one to shoot at ISO 5,000 and higher.

I as well as others, who I know have revisited old TIFF images that we post processed in the past which we thought were okay, only to be amazed at how much they could be improved simply by getting to know how to finely adjust the settings and turn them into far more appealing photos. However, one needs to be careful not to overdo it.

LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING ALL THE AMAZING IMAGES WE PRODUCE IN 2026.



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.