



IPIP Photographic Club

October 2023 Newsletter

Theme: Abandoned Buildings

Image By



Dominique Borlase

First and foremost, our thanks to the members who submitted newsletter articles. It is gratifying to note that not only do we receive interesting Biopics but also articles of general travel and photographic interest on an on-going basis. *Lovely Stuff – Keep them coming.*

Email articles to me at pdk.main@gmail.com or to the IPIP address Ed

Calendar

Meeting Date	PV Submission Date	Theme	Theme Cut-off Date	MC Cut-off Date
7th November	Midnight 28th October	City 'scapes	1st October 2022	1st August 2023
5 th December	Year-End Function			

Set subject Theme Definitions

Theme	Definition
City 'scapes	Image to have a visual appearance of a city or urban area; a city landscape. A single building would be regarded as architecture and not a city scape.

IPIP Website

Members are reminded that our Club website www.ipip-photoclub.co.za has been up and running for a while now. This is a first-class professional landing site full of interesting information and striking images, which we hope will attract newcomers to our Club.

PhotoVault Submission

All our monthly photo submissions are handled via Photovault at www.photovaultonline.com. A separate document explaining how to access Photovault is available on request. When submitting your images ensure that you receive an Email confirmation from PV within, say an hour, to the effect that your photos have been received. If not, you need to “re-finalise” your submission.

Please remember that at least one of your images must be in the Mono genre.

Salon Acceptances

It is possible that glitches can occur between the time that advice of acceptances are automatically transmitted by Photovault and the receipt of such advices by the IPIP Committee. As a “safety net”, I would have no objection if members were to copy me the relevant images for inclusion in the NL. . . Ed

Club Submissions for 2023

The following guidelines are applicable to this year’s submissions:

- One of your 4 photos must be in Monochrome
- In future, SS judging details will be presented at the meetings – these results will still be forwarded to members by Email together with the MC results, which will be remotely judged as before.

Matters Arising from the October Club Meeting

A total of 15 members and 2 visitors participated in our October meeting.

The 24th National Up-and-Coming Photographic Competition closes on 14th October. This takes the form of a challenge for 1-3 Star workers and CHAIR has made a special appeal to members to enter their images for this event.

The entrant with the most acceptances will receive a prize.

Kim Lategan has been promoted to 3-Star level. Congratulations and well done to Kim.

CHAIR announced our 2024 Club week-end away for 19 – 21 April 2024. Judging by the enthusiastic response to the 2023 event, the weekend away should be a blast and bookings are now “open” for our stay in the picturesque village of Kaapsehoop in Mpumalanga (for birdwatchers: the home of the endangered Blue Swallow).

It was announced that the Club AGM will be held in February each year, as from 2024.

The following changes to our Photovault submission procedure, were promulgated.

From January 2024 IPIP will be tracking judging results and promotions via Photovault

1. **You will receive email with outcome**
2. **You will receive email with promotion**
3. **Photovault will keep track of salon acceptance**
4. **No spreadsheet will be circulated**
5. **No email submissions**

The usual judging outcomes with comments will still be emailed

CHAIR had devised an **interesting Quiz of 15 photographic-oriented questions** and members enjoyed the fun of testing their knowledge of all things photographic. Dutchy Geldenhuys and Dave Brimson who both scored 14 correct answers, were declared joint winners.

For the benefit of those members who could not attend the meeting and would like to also test their knowledge levels, please find the list of questions as an attachment to this newsletter. Answers will appear in the February 2024 newsletter – JUST JOKING - the answers are floating around somewhere but first you need to answer the questions. Have fun! Ed

Due dates: November Image Submissions – Sat 28th October
Next Meeting 7th November

4-Star Online Judging – 1st November

Membership Fees

The 2023 fee structure remains unchanged.

Payable in advance for the year before the end of February – R300 or pro-rata from the month of joining the club @ R30 per month. Plus a fee per meeting to cover meeting cost – R30 per person – you are welcome to pay for all meetings in advance (R600) but we cannot refund any fees if members miss a meeting.

Members' Star Level Advancement Guidelines

One of the main points of being a member of a photo club is to challenge yourself and to climb the ranks by taking amazing photos. The following basic guidelines indicate what you need to achieve in order to move to the next star level. A separate document providing a full description of the advancement guidelines can be obtained on request.

From 1 to 2 star – 10 Club Gold Awards

From 2 to 3 star – 25 Club Gold Awards

From 3 to 4 star – 50 Gold Awards plus 10 Salon Acceptance

From 4 to 5 star – 100 Gold Awards and 25 Salon Acceptances

Franconi Challenge

Submissions are now open for 2023. You will need to submit a portfolio of 6 images **before 31 October 2023**.

Please let our Chair know once you have chosen a topic, you can then start photographing that topic from the day you messaged her. You must also submit a short essay (200 to 500 words) on your topic including why you chose the topic, what you learnt and what the challenges were.

Please remember that the rules for 2023 have changed:

- Only one category to be submitted;
- No repeats of previous themes;
- No repeats of previous image types/genres;

Try something you have never done before, challenge yourself !

Events and Outings

A number of forthcoming events and outings were discussed.

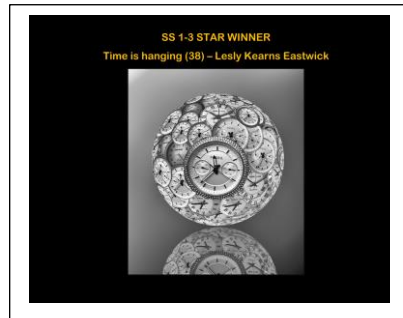
The Red Bus Club-sponsored Jacaranda Tour will take place on 15th October 2023. We look forward to it.

On Sunday 12th November, a Model Shoot will be held at Victoria Yards at R300 per person. Please let CHAIR know if you wish to participate. Attendance is limited to 10 persons.

The Springs Photographic Club CERPS Congress will take place on 14th October at Springs Airfield.

Technical Feedback and Training

For our September Club Set Subject submission, Lesly Kerns-Eastwick submitted the winning image replicated below.



Lesly has kindly provided a document detailing the Photoshop compositing procedure which was followed to produce this result. The document is included as an attachment to this newsletter.

Seeing as how the November set subject is “Cityscapes” the following article may be of assistance to members when planning their images.

https://digital-photography-school.com/10-tips-better-cityscape-photography/?utm_source=newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Jul-2723&user_id=pdk.main@gmail.com

Members' Forum

A memorable trip to the Western Cape, in two parts, by Saskia Cole.

TIME IN THE CAPE – PART 1



Photo by S Cole

I have been privileged to spend quite a bit of time in the Western Cape and while the City of Cape Town offers many beautiful elements, it is the Overberg and the Namaqualand areas which intrigue me, especially in the flower season of September and October. Having recently returned from a short trip, I thought I would share my travels with you in a three part series.

There are six floral kingdoms formed by the grouping of related species and families in different regions of the world. They are the Holarctic, Paleotropical, Neotropical, Australian, Antarctic, and the Cape Floristic. The Holarctic floral kingdom, the largest one, encompasses all non-tropical parts of Europe and Asia, Africa, the northern Sahara, North America, and the southern Mexican desert region. The others also cover mainly very large regions, and then all by itself, at the very bottom of our continent is an entire little flower kingdom, the smallest one, basically on our door step. The Cape Floral Kingdom is home to some of the most diverse flora in the world. Almost 70% of its plant species can be found nowhere else on earth. There are over 9000 different types of fynbos, 2000 of which grow on Table Mountain.

We headed north up the R27. It was misty morning, so not much to see with our early start. As it was a day trip, we headed to the West Coast National Park, just an hour or so away, along the western shores of the Langebaan lagoon. The main gate opened at 8am and not many people were about as the mist was still rolling in. The park includes dunes and fynbos with views of the lagoon – once the mist lifted ! There are also many animals, we saw zebra, hartebeest, flamingos, herons and many other birds. Our first stop was Preekstoel along the lagoon. The tide was out and a large soggy beach was mostly walkable. There in the distance were pink flamingos, how to get closer without sinking into the mud ? There were also boats in the distance and great landscape photography to be had.

We carried on to the Postberg section in the north. So far not many flowers to be seen. The Postberg section is however where they were at, only open to the public in flower season. Strict instructions were posted everywhere to stay in your car and stay out of the fields ... who us ? If we stand here next to the car, that will be ok hey ? There are no lions.

I will not walk into the field promise. Just crouch here in the road. I need to get low and I cannot do that from the car. No one said anything ! We made our way to the Plankiesbaai picnic area, where the flowers grow among the shells and rocks and the herons and the seagulls tolerate each other.

A beach, sea spray onto the rocks and flowers. But hordes of pensioners were staking their claim of land between the rocks with folding chairs and tables, hauling out picnic baskets, so we did not stay long. We headed to the Geelbek Restaurant on the lagoon for lunch instead.



Photos by yours truly

The flowers of the Cape at this time of year are not only the vygies and daisies however but also the canola fields, which offer beautiful landscape photography opportunities, often with green fields of sprouting wheat, newly

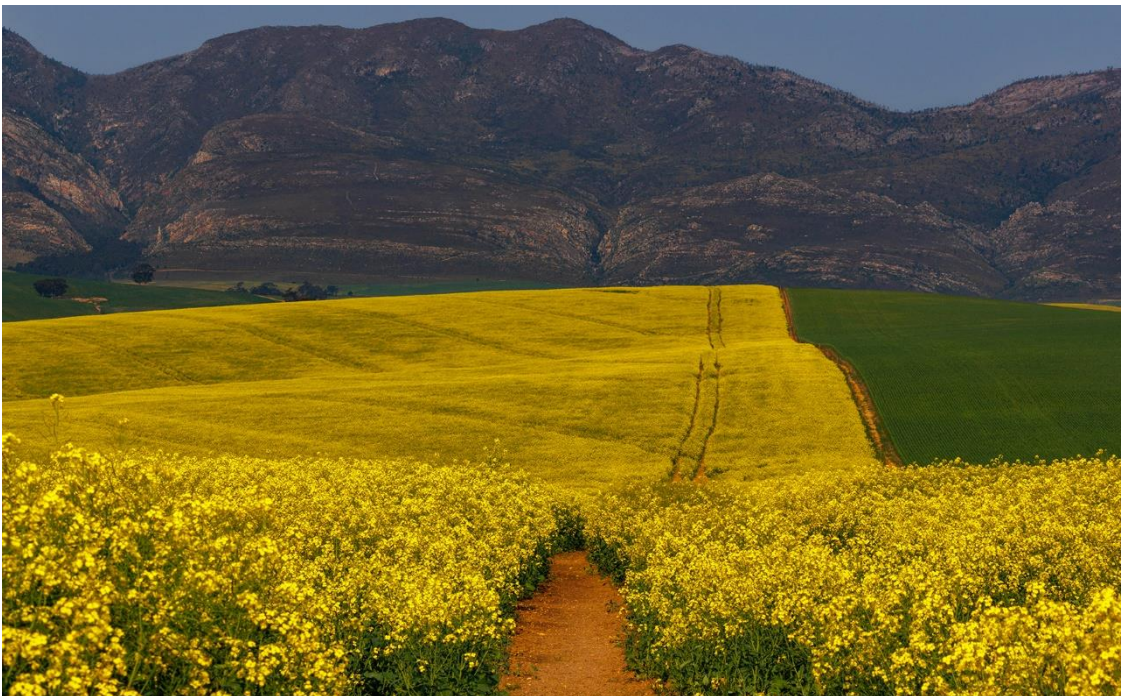
ploughed dark brown fields and the yellow canola fields contrasted with grey granite mountains and a blue sky, if you are lucky. The landscapes will often have farm houses and sheep with sand roads meandering through.

So the next day we headed down the N2 towards Bot River and Caledon, somewhere in between we turned off onto the Donkerhoek Road, a sand road which became Middelploas Road, as then you can stop where you want and slow things down. The best farms are located on sand roads! The sheep were not too interested in posing, in the distance was a white church.

Perfect. It turns out that the area is a breeding ground for our national bird, the blue crane, and sure enough, there they were walking among the sheep.



No, the cranes are not in this photo – in another photo !! Though I did take this one



And I took this one (focus stacking – I'm really trying !)

We eventually reached the town of Grayton, a town was full of quaint little shops, art galleries and restaurants with guest houses in between in old buildings. The town was established in 1852 and at the time the various sized properties were made available to buyers of any race, nationality or religion at affordable prices.

This was the only town in the Cape in which such land with full title deeds, water rights and grazing rights was for sale to anyone. Many of town's original buildings and features have survived, including the original leiwater (irrigation) system of street furrows, the town kraal and dipping tank, a blacksmith's house and forge, the school's boarding house and the extensive public commonage crisscrossed by walking, hiking and cycling paths that surround the town.

There are also two old churches, some of the earliest cottages built between 1854 and 1860 in Vigne Lane and at the end of Vlei Street, as well as an old shepherd's cottage built prior to 1840, which is now incorporated into "The Old Potter's Inn" building on Greyton's Main Road. This information from the Greyton tourism website. <http://www.greytontourism.com>. Who knew ?



No, these two are not my photos. They could have been though !

See the November newsletter for Part Two

[This month's biopic is all about a certain Lady who provides those scrumptious eats at our meetings – Jill Kupper](#)

Photography & me

I actually started scrapbooking before I started photography. Scrapbooking involves using photos and putting them into an album with lots of embellishments and even some story telling. I realised how terrible most of the photos were, not worth the effort of putting them into an album. Something had to be done about my photography skills.

When my husband came home with a Nikon D80 and announced it was our family camera, I grabbed at the opportunity to start learning about the buttons and dials, f-stop and aperture. A camera course at Randridge Mall helped a bit and I realised that I needed to practise, practise and practise.

Game drives and sitting in bird hides became fascinating. I realised the importance of good lighting and the excitement of taking a 'good' photo . A few photographic wildlife safaris helped me a lot, especially having someone right there to guide me on the camera settings.

The extra-mural sporting activities at school, gave me another opportunity to take 'action' photos. This was another challenge but the high school pupils are very forgiving. They don't judge the photo as long as they are in the photo and the photo gets published in the school magazine.

Thanks to Anne d'Oliveira, I was introduced to IPIP. Bless her soul, little did she realise how scary the IPIP meetings were , I still had a lot to learn. And so, some years later, I'm still on the road of learning about photography.

Some ideas that I would like to share –

Photography is about getting out and appreciating nature,
being more observant of our surroundings, noticing things like light, colour, shadows and reflections,
sharing experiences with others,
being ready and making the time for photo opportunities,
capturing a moment or the essence of a person, a place or an event
and simply, being creative.

HOPE YOU ENJOYED THE OCTOBER NEWSLETTER

HAPPY SHOOTING

IPIP PHOTOGRAPHIC CLUB

Members' Images – Oct 2023

Salon Acceptances

2nd SPC National digital Salon – 2023

Pat Clark – Fynbos



Members' Images – Oct 2023

SS – Judges' Vote

SS 1-3 STAR WINNER

Swampy delights (38) – Dominique Borlase



Members' Images – Oct 2023

SS – Judges' Vote

SS 4 STAR WINNER

Quirky (39) - Deon Heyns



Members' Images – Oct 2023

SS – Judges' Vote

SS 5 STAR WINNER

Burned out (39) - Dutchy Geldenhuys



Members' Images – Oct 2023

SS – Peer Vote

SS PEER VOTE 1-3 STAR WINNER

Fixer Upper – Pat Clark



Members' Images – Oct 2023

SS – Peer Vote

SS 4 STAR PEER VOTE WINNER

Room with a view - Geoff Twomey



Members' Images – Oct 2023

SS – Peer Vote

SS PEER VOTE 5 STAR WINNER

Derelict – Sandy van Vuuren



Members' Images – Oct 2023

MC – Judges' Vote

MC 1-3 STAR WINNER

& MC PEER VOTE WINNER 1-3 STAR

Tianjin Lights (40) – Byron Kennedy



Members' Images – Oct 2023

MC – Judges' Vote

MC 4 STAR WINNER

The Falkirk Wheel (40) – Robert Freeborough



Members' Images – Oct 2023

MC – Judges' Vote

MC 5 STAR WINNER - TIE

Classic Amphitheatre View (40) – David Wolstencroft



MC 5 STAR WINNER – TIE AND

MC 5 STAR PEER VOTE - WINNER

I can hear you (40) – Dudley Schnetler



Members' Images – Oct 2023

MC – Peer Vote

MC 4 STAR PEER VOTE - WINNER

Farmland painting – Deon Heyns

