

e FLASH

JUNE 2026

WWW.PRETORIAPHOTOGRAPHIC.CO.ZA



Got the shrimp
Roelof Groesbeek
Best Nature
& Best Master Bronze



The bath
Boshoff Steenekamp
Best 4 Star



PRETORIA PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

www.pretoriaphotographic.co.za

Photo-Vault-Online Entries

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)	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

2 June 2026 Hybrid meeting	Photo Café Meeting@ NG Church Lynwood Sussex Avenue 19H00
16 June 2026 Hybrid meeting	Formal Meeting @ NG Church Lynwood Sussex Avenue 18H30
Judges: May 2026	David Mouton (NPC) Pine Pienaar Chantelle Janse van Rensburg

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:	
Dear PPS club members When entering your photos for the formal evenings, could you please remember the following: You are allowed one entry in the SET SUBJECT and four entries in either of the following categories:	1. OPEN 2. VISUAL ART/FINE ART 3. SCAPES 4. PHOTOJOURNALISM AND STREET PHOTOGRAPHY (According to PSSA rules) 5. Nature (According to PSSA rules)

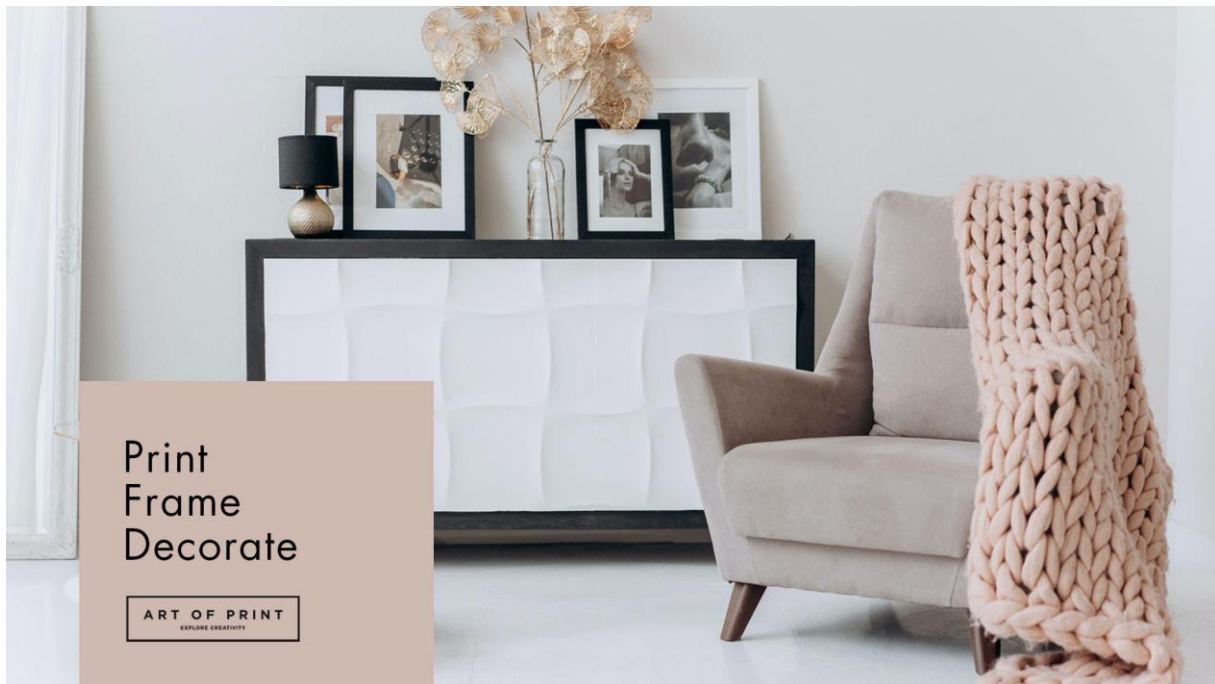
SERVICE TO THE CLUB:	
You can serve the club by providing two or more of the services listed below throughout the year. Remember you must provide regular service to the club for it to qualify.	
List of services: - Judging at the monthly competitions. - Writing articles for the e-Flash. - Writing tutorials for the e-Flash. - Assisting with / hosting outings. - Assisting with / hosting workshops. - Assisting with / hosting tutorials.	- 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
Scottburgh Camera Club 1 st National Salon	13 June 2026
3 rd SANParks Honorary Rangers Pretoria Region Salon	27 June 2026
Worcester Fotografieklub 2 nd PDI & Print Salon	4 July 2026
Krugersdorp Camera Club 20 th Digital Salon	18 July 2026
7 th PSSA National Youth Salon	1 August 2026
Bluff Camera Club 4 th Digital Salon	15 August 2026
10 th Tygerberg Photographic Society Print & Digital Salon	29 August 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	
BCC 8th National PDI Salon Giuseppe Carbonatto Adaption Catch light Sonja de Klerk The three geese Time is running out  PSSA Silver Medal Water from my eyes and nose CONGRATULATIONS!!!!!!!	HCPS 7th Salon Sonja de Klerk Bokkoms gallery Giuseppe Carbonatto Going in low Quiver trees  Catch light

Outdoor Photo:



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

President's Page - Thelma v.d. Schyff

POPULAR SAYINGS PORTRAYED

Have you noticed how many sayings/idioms in normal daily language are very descriptive. It is easy to form a picture in your mind. Sometimes it can be hilarious, sometimes it can be very unclear.

Have you ever wondered where the saying "Break a leg" comes from? Especially if it is supposed to wish someone good luck. Not to mention that something can cost you an arm and a leg. Who would want my arm and leg, rather than my money? When I have to persevere in a difficult situation, I am told to bite the bullet. Imagine that!



When thinking about taking photos of situations depicting sayings in the spoken language, the opportunity is endless. A completely impossible situation that might never become a reality, is very descriptively compared to the unlikely situation as flying pigs. (My brother used to say that there will be peace in the Middle East before an unreachable goal is achieved. Isn't that true?)

Back to our endless imaginations.

Have you ever bought a cat in the bag?



Do you know a couch potato?



Have you seen it raining cats and dogs?



Knowing Sonja's photo of the clock with time running out, I am waiting to see how Sonja can make time fly.



Everyone knows someone who can exaggerate a small incident to make it into a disaster. Then it can be described as a storm in a teacup.



Are you the apple in anyone's eye?

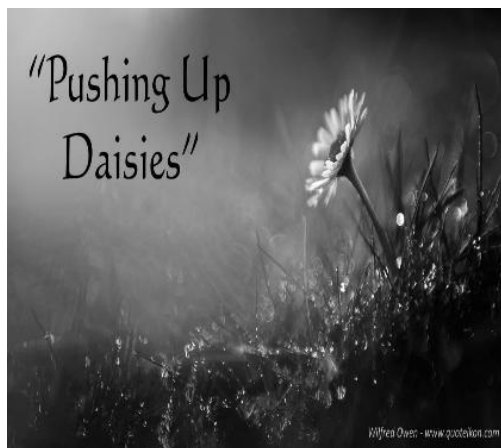


When I am tired of the snails in my garden, I sometimes put eggshells in the beds. It is said it will keep them out, as it is too sharp to move on. Is that why a person is said to walk on eggshells when he has to tread carefully?



Can we raise a toast to the bride and groom?

It can also result in some black humour. Have you heard of somebody pushing up daisies? Yeah, really black...)



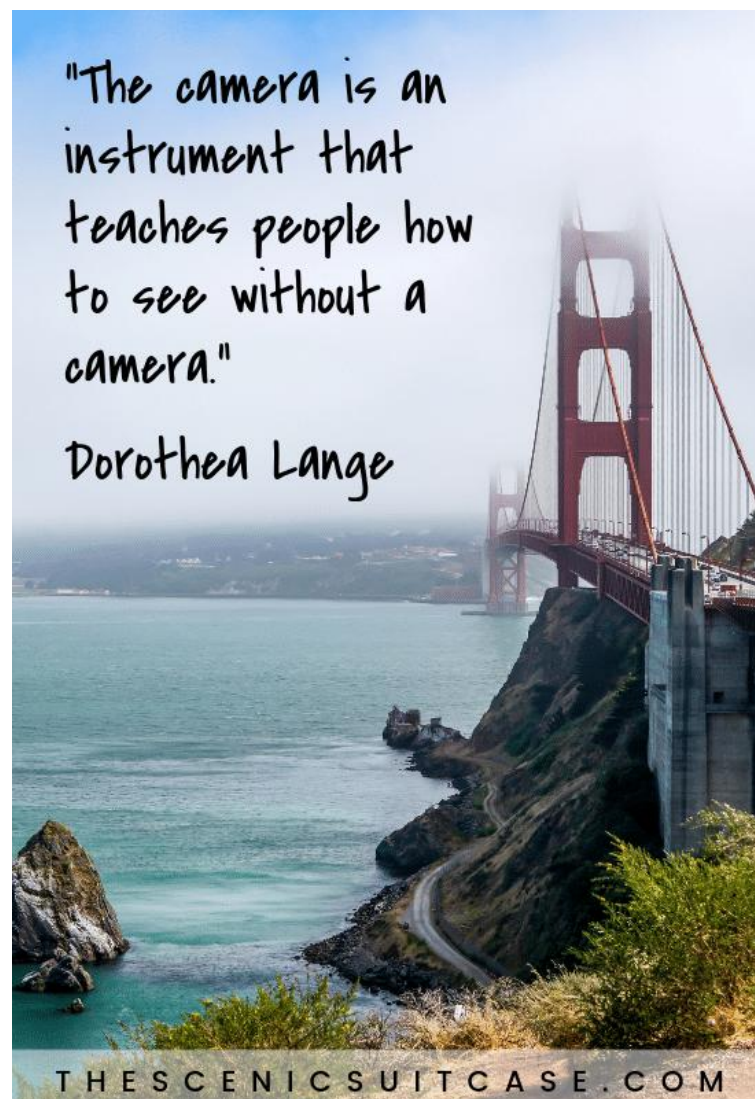
Do you have an impossible dream/wish? What can be more impossible than a pie in the sky?



I can carry on and on. This is a topic without an end. I am looking forward to your presentations of idioms that you captured in an upcoming set subject topic. I am sure the visual and creative art enthusiasts will not disappoint.

Until next time

Thelma



Winners May 2026



*Best 2 Star
& Best Visual Art
Depart from me
Kagiso Langa*

*Best Set Subject
Bedouin Caravan
Casper van Eck*





*Best 3 Star, Best Junior
& Best Open
Steam Through
a Sea of Cosmos
Carina Munday*

*Good Visual Art
Think bike
George Stevens*





*Best 5 Star, Best Senior
& Best Scapes
Rock to Mountains
Johan Hosten*

*Good Scape
Before sun up
John Tapuch*





*Best PJ
Water from my
eyes and nose
Sonja de Klerk*



*Good Visual Art
Image error
Kagiso Langa*



*Good Visual Art
Mural dance
Linda Martin*

*Good PJ &
Street Photography
Rhythm of Celebration
Lloyd Munday*





*When I grow up
Johan Hosten*

*Stopping is
not an option
Fransie Stevens*





*Rolling Thunder
Lloyd Munday*

*Making Music
Carina Munday*





*Mom and Daughter Fun
Carina Munday*

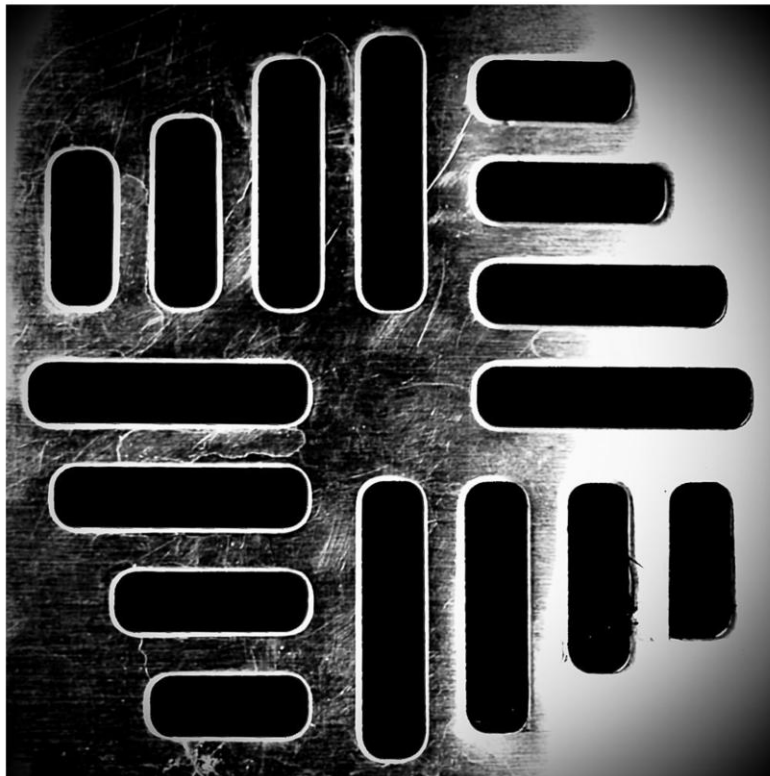
*10mm miracle
Fransie Stevens*





On patrol
Giuseppe Carbonatto

Grid
Hennie Stoffberg





*Ma help me
Roelof Groesbeek*

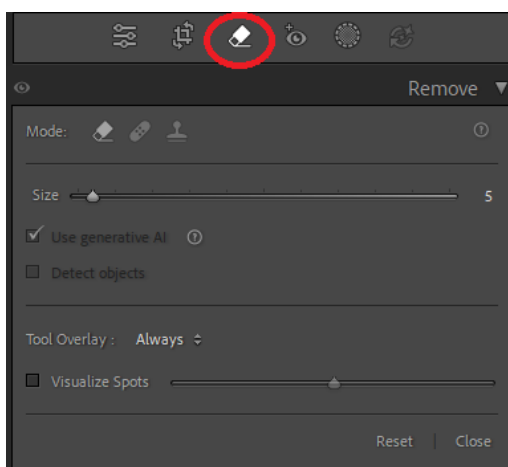
*Big catch
George Stevens*



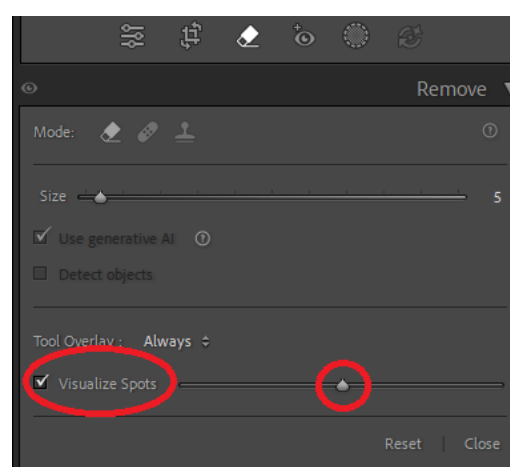
Article:

Remove dust spots using Lightroom - Sonja de Klerk

Those dreadful words “Amazing photograph, if only it did not have those dust spots”, a comment that none of us want to hear. Dust spots are also the first that judges will notice and critique on. It is a very embarrassing moment for any photographer. We are often so captured by a good photograph that we neglect the basics that will take the photograph from “good” to “great”. Dust spots can be from the camera’s sensor or on the lens. Dust spots on the camera’s sensor will usually be visible in the same spot. These are caused by dust entering during lens changes. Dust spots on the sensor can be identified by taking a test shot. Set the camera on Aperture Mode and the aperture to the highest number (f16 or f22). Focus on a plain bright surface, like a white wall or a clear sky. Analyze the image for any dark, blurry spots. Use your camera’s Sensor Cleaning mode to get rid of these. Dust spots on the lens are the easy ones to get rid of. They can be removed using a blower or microfiber cloth. Although we all try to keep everything clean, we are using our cameras often and in “not so clean” environments. It is therefore very important to always check for dust spots. It is the 1st check to do, before processing an image and before entering a competition. Apart from inspecting your camera and lenses, you can also use Lightroom to check for any dust spots on photographs. I am using Lightroom Classic Version 15.2.1. Select the Healing Brush (Top-Right) & then select Visualize Spots.



Healing Tool

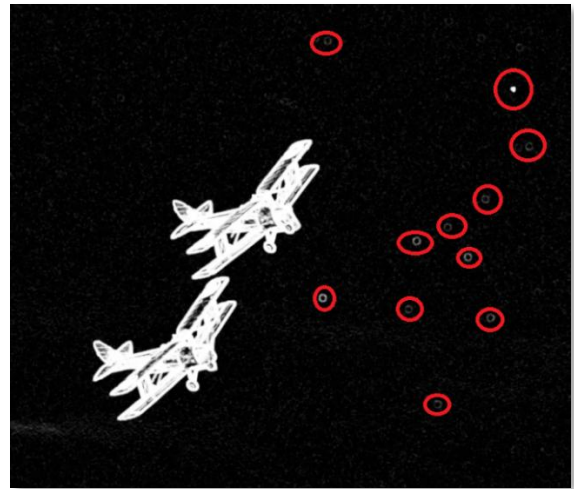


Visualize Spots & slider

Below is typical what you will see. From this display, the spots to remove can be identified. Use the slider, even up to 100%, to detect those lighter spots. While you are still on the “spotty” image, you can utilize the Healing tool & remove all the spots.



Visualize Spot overlay - Slider about 50%

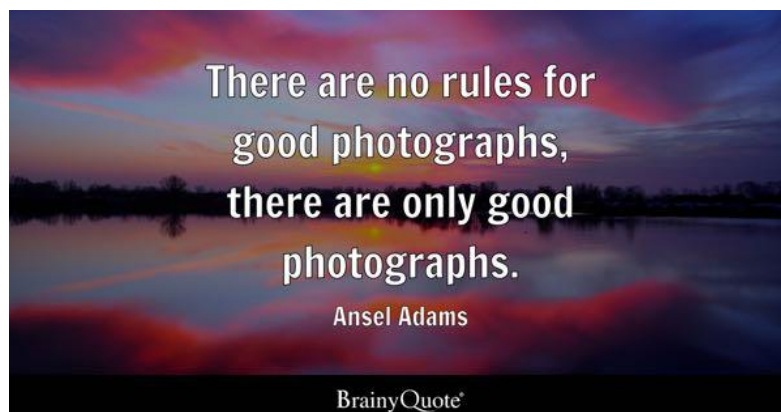


Visualize Spot overlay – Slider on 100%

The Visualize Spot overlay will also highlight noise in the image, which is also helpful. It is recommended to perform first Denoise and then the spots can be removed using the Visualize Spot overlay.

It is allowed to remove dust spots for non-manipulation categories. Referring to the PSSA rules (PSSA CONDITIONS of ENTRY for SALONS and COMPETITIONS Version 2026.1 – updated 4th May 2025), which is stating the following: Allowed editing techniques: Removal or correction of elements added by the camera or lens, such as dust spots, noise, chromatic aberration and lens distortion.

Take pride in your photographs, value them and embrace attention to detail by “cleaning” your photographs. You owe yourself a “great” photograph for the money and time you spend to take the photographs.



OUTINGS:







Nirox Sculpture Park outing & TriBeCa
Social event

PPS 2026 ANNUAL PHOTOSTORY:



PPS members are reminded of this exiting and creative annual competition. You are requested to timeously start considering the topic of your entry and to collate a set of applicable images for your presentation. Images will be entered on a Photo Vault portal. On the evening of the presentation the images of each entry will be displayed on the screen and each participant will briefly relate the story.

Important Dates

19 August 2026: Activation of the Photo Vault portal for submission of the images.

30 August at midnight: Closing date for submissions.

1 September: Presentation of entries by participants at the Photo Café meeting.

Examples of Themes for your Story

The Photo Story will consist of an **album with maximum of 8 related images** that converse an interesting story. Examples of themes that could be considered:

- Human behaviour, animal behaviour, pet behaviour, environmental occurrences, sports actions, etc. The set of images should be captured at the same spot or in the immediate surrounding related to the occurrence.
- A thematic set of images that relate an interesting, humoristic, or educational story, for example flowers, plants, bridges, doors, windows, etc. Funny situations, graffiti, etc. All images must contribute to the storyline.

Format and Rules of the Competition

A **maximum of 8** images per album.

Only **one** entry per member.

The first image must contain an appropriate **title** for the album. Consecutive images may contain **brief subscripts** to further highlight the story.

The digital size of each final image must be adjusted to no more than **1920 pixels wide** and **1080 pixels high**, with a maximum size of **2MB**. The album may contain a mix of portrait and landscape images. The aspect ratio of the images may vary.

All entries will be presented at the September Photo Café. Participants will be requested to present their albums, with a time restriction of about 5 minutes. The winners will be selected by popular vote of the audience.

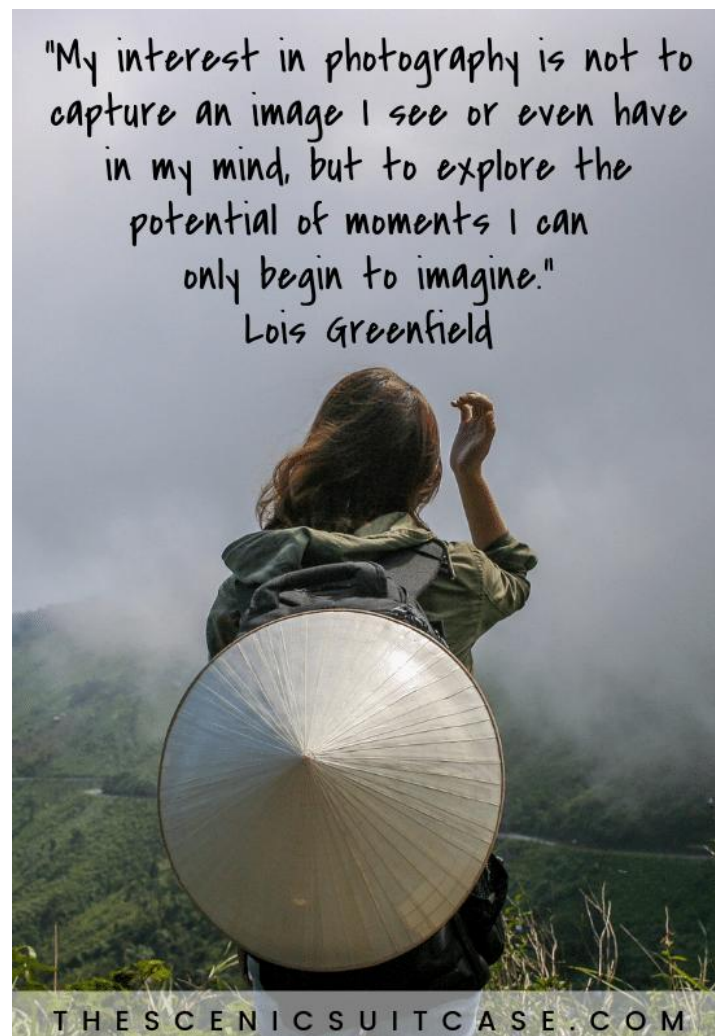
Entries must be submitted via a designated Photo Vault portal. The portal will be activated 2 weeks prior to the date of the competition and will close on the Saturday at midnight preceding the Photo Café meeting.

I hope that you will enjoy participating in this unique photographic experience.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Pine Pienaar

pienaar459@gmail.com



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
Isabel Groesbeek 7	Carina Munday 24
Fransie Stevens 21	
An-Marie Cronje 20	
Linda Martin 22	
Charles Costello 30	
May	June
Boshoff Steenekamp 16	Joan Fouché 16
Detlef Basel 23	Akindele Olunloyo 17
Frans Fouché 30	Lloyd Munday 18
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
Bennie du Plooy 13	George Stevens 16
Johan Ver Loren van Themaat 21	Bill Zurich 16
	Johan von Willich 21
	Ann Roberts 23
	Brigitte Hansen 25
	Bibi Andrews 27
	Petra Haselmaier 29
September	October
Madré Oberholzer 8	John Tapuch 1
Roelof Groesbeek 25	Ken van Wyk 5
	Thelma van der Schyff 8
	Huan Zhongjie 12
	Ronelle Oosthuizen 13
	Erika Cronjé 18
	Chantelle J van Rensburg 24
November	December
Santie van Eck 6	Giuseppe Carbonatto 1
Johan Hosten 9	Pine Pienaar 26
Karin du Toit 11	Marlene Birkholtz 31
Giel du Toit 15	
Frans Mohr 21	

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