

THE DRIFTWOOD



Official Newsletter of the Beachcombers Photography Club

June 2011

(The Beachcombers Photography Club is affiliated with the PSSA)



Photographer: Nobby Clarke – forgotten dreams – received a COM at our June 2011 Club Competition.

To visit our website, go to <http://www.beachcombersclub.co.za/>

To email us: beachcombers.photography@gmail.com

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1. Themes for 2011

MONTH	THEME	VENUE	DATE
June	Scapes	Mondi Sports Grounds conference room (Woodpeckers)	7 Jun 2011
July	Spots	Mondi Sports Grounds conference room (Woodpeckers)	5 Jul 2011
August	Beach	Mondi Sports Grounds conference room (Woodpeckers)	2 Aug 2011
September	Practical	Mondi Sports Grounds conference room (Woodpeckers)	6 Sep 2011
October	Sport	Mondi Sports Grounds conference room (Woodpeckers)	4 Oct 2011
November	People	Mondi Sports Grounds conference room (Woodpeckers)	1 Nov 2011
December	Year End Function	To be confirmed	6 Dec 2011

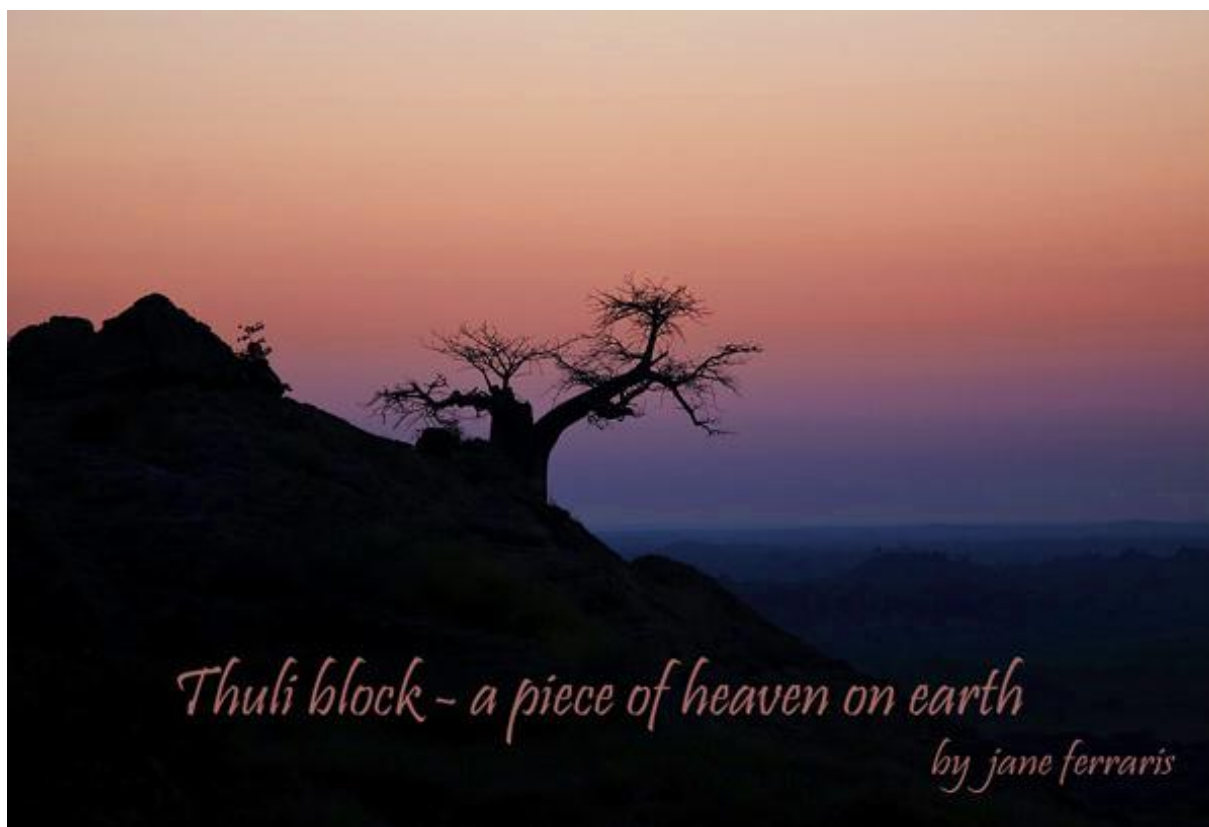


PLEASE NOTE THAT WE HAVE A NEW VENUE. FOR DETAILS & MAPS GO TO:
<http://www.beachcombersclub.co.za/events2010.html>

2. Photo Tips

Jane Ferraris did a presentation at our May 2011 Club Meeting on their recent visit to the Thuli Block in Botswana. For those of you who missed out, here is a short summary of their experience:

“GO WITH ME ON OUR TRIP TO THE THULI BLOCK, BOTSWANA:” (NGIHAMBE NAWE) By Jane Ferraris



In the remote eastern corner of Botswana, at the confluence of the Limpopo and Shashe rivers, lies an area known historically as the Tuli enclave - a diverse wilderness of savannah, riverine forests, marshland, open plains and sandstone outcrops.

30,000 HECTARES

HOME OF NO LESS THAN SEVEN OF AFRICA'S GIANTS: the African elephant, the lion, giraffe, the baobab tree, the eland, the ostrich, and the kori bustard.

366 Species of birds

The largest herd of elephant on privately owned land in Africa. Known as the relic herds of Shashe, these elephants are the last living testament to the great herds that once populated the meandering Limpopo valley. Today, the population on Mashatu Game Reserve alone, is estimated to number in excess of 500.

The Tswana trackers are expert in their fields and serve as fountains of information on the game drives. (The Mashatu Reserve accommodation offers vehicle, mountain bike and horse riding game drives. They also offer walking trails.)

The name comes from the giant trees which abound in the area – the Mashatu. The lodge we stayed in is built around a couple of these beautiful giants.

OUR TRIP:**WHEN:** 2010**HOW:** FLEW KING SHAKA/JNB; BORROWED A CAR AND DROVE ON THE PIETERSBURG HIGHWAY VIA TO PONTDRIF BORDER CROSSING (IN A CABLE CAR OVER THE LIMPOPO!!) PICKED UP ON THE OTHER SIDE AND DRIVEN TO THE LODGE. ALL PASSPORT STUFF DONE ON EITHER SIDE OF THE RIVER. THE CAR PARKED ON THE SA SIDE UNDER A TREE.**STAYED:** SETHARE LODGE, MASHATU GAME RESERVE**THINGS TO NOTE:**

NO PRIVATE VEHICLES ON THE ROADS

NO LOUD VEHICLE RADIO'S – HEADSETS USED BY THE DRIVERS/GAME RANGERS

ONLY TWO VEHICLES PER SIGHTING AND WHEN A THIRD ONE ARRIVES THE FIRST ONE MUST LEAVE.

NO SPOT LIGHTS ALLOWED TO BE SHONE IN ANIMALS EYES – THEY'RE VERY STRICT ABOUT THIS.

THE VEHICLES CAN FOLLOW THE GAME ON/OFF THE ROAD

WE SPENT 3 NIGHTS AND 4 DAYS IN THE LODGE WITH TWO GAME DRIVES A DAY

3. Workshops



One of the best ways to improve your wildlife photography is to attend workshop and head out into the field with like-minded people led by professional, knowledgeable and experienced photographers.

Fancy Photographic equipment alone does not make for good photographs, it has more to do with the person operating it.

African Photographic Adventures in conjunction with **Photo Africa** and **Moya Wa Tenga** will be conducting two day wildlife photography workshops which will give you the technical knowledge, creative inspiration and confidence to set your passion in motion, be able to take your photography to the next level and enjoy it at the same time.

The Workshop

During *day one* we will look at the technical, creative and ethical aspects of wildlife photography.

Topics we will cover include:

- Principles and ethics of wildlife photography
- Equipment choices and how they will affect you images

- Animal behaviour and anticipating "the shot"
- Correct versus creative exposure in wildlife photography
- Composition in wildlife photography
- Difficult lighting situations
- Working your subject and telling a visual story
- Processing and managing your wildlife images

Day two of the photographic workshop includes a day photographing wildlife in the Kruger National Park, accompanied by a professional wildlife photographer and guide.

We start off early in the morning in our open game drive vehicle in order to get to the park as the gates open and in the best light of the day. We will spend some time at some of the hides within the park to concentrate on some bird photography and spend the rest of the day photographing wildlife as we travel through the park.

Mid morning we will either have a packed breakfast at one of the picnic spots or at one of the nearby camps, this will also give us time to chat about the mornings viewing and images captured.

We will stop for lunch at one of the main camps in the park before continuing on our afternoons drive and game viewing, and before heading back to Nelspruit in the evening we will look for a great spot for some sunset shots.

Workshop Size

To ensure personal attention the workshops will be restricted to 6 participants.

Included

Day 1 – Theory

- Workshop
- Laminated field notes
- Cd with photo resources
- Tea, coffee and water
- Snacks and lunch

Day 2 - Kruger National Park - Day Trip

- Photographic instruction throughout the day
- Services of professional guides
- Return transfers from Nelspruit (collection and drop off point to be confirmed)
- S.A citizens park entrance fees
- Full day game driving in The Kruger
- Use of open game viewing vehicle in the Kruger
- Light breakfast and snacks
- Soft drinks and water on the drives

Excluded

- Lunch in the Kruger
- Drinks other than those supplied on the vehicle
- Accommodations

Cost

R 2100 per person

What to bring

- DSLR camera that allows you to set aperture, shutter speed and ISO
- You camera manual if you have it
- Lenses, we recommend a wide angle (18-70mm) and then a longer lens (300-400mm)
- Tripod
- Hat and sunscreen
- Note pad

Workshop Dates

26 -27 November 2011

To book or enquire about "Wildlife Photography 101", please fill in the form below and we will send you all the relevant booking forms and information.

<http://www.africanphotographicadventures.co.za/index.php/workshops/>



Photographic Course

by

Manie Combrinck

Starting 4 May 2011

Phone: 082 490 5075 or e mail
manie.c@mweb.co.za for information.

Visit <http://www.wildlifephotography.co.za/> for info on workshops hosted by Albert Froneman and Chris van Rooyen.

Instructional photo workshop - Giant's Castle

Start Date: 2011-06-26

End Date: 2011-06-28

Length: 2 nights / 3 days

Venue: Giants Castle Game Reserve - KwaZulu-Natal

[Click here for more information](#)

Visit <http://www.cavern.co.za/photographic.php> for info on the

Drakensberg Photographic Workshop

2011 Dates:

12-14 Aug

Cost: R1580 pps

Derek and Norma Pearman will be hosts at the Cavern's Drakensberg photographic workshop. There is no couple more active in photography than Derek and Norma. Derek has served as PRO, Vice President and President of the Photographic Society for over 20 years, and both he and Norma have been taking photographs since their school days over 30 years ago.

Over the years the Pearmans have shared their adventures, knowledge and skills with other photographers by judging, giving lectures and holding workshops at camera clubs around the country. They also organise numerous events run by the Photographic Society such as regional conferences and the annual PSSA Congress.

Norma teaches photography skills at flower clubs while Derek does the same for Wildlife Society members. He recently instructed groups of game rangers at the Pilansberg Nature Reserve and Londolozi Game Reserve on basic photographic techniques. Derek regularly lectures on photography to media students at the Johannesburg Technikon and has given courses to over 200 students at the University of Pretoria. Derek and Norma have presented several Basic Photography workshops, with Norma's floral photography workshops being especially popular.

Derek and Norma invite you to join them for a weekend photographic workshop in the beautiful setting of The Cavern.

The workshop, from basic to advanced, will encompass:

- Understanding 'your' equipment. Film or digital welcome.
- Composition and adding impact to your pictures
- Creative use of filters
- Macro using flashing
- Multi-exposure and other tricks
- Night photography
- The secret of using light
- The art of seeing and creating a photograph

Please contact Derek via e-mail to photoman@lantic.net or telephone 083 274 3781 or 011 391 5191 (evenings) if you have any questions regarding the workshop.

DEREK PEARMAN HON. FPSSA, FPSSA

NORMA PEARMAN FPSSA

Cell: 083-274-3781

E-Mail: photoman@lantic.net

4. Competitions

2011 Rio Tinto/PMC Bird Photographic Competition



RioTinto

Calling all photographers in the Ba-Phalaborwa and Hoedspruit Communities. Here is your chance to show off your photographic skills and stand a chance to win one of the prizes up for grabs. The competition will run from **April 2011 – September 2011**, with a different category per month. Each of the categories will have two sections – Wannabe (amateur) and Fanatic (more professional).

Entries must be submitted by the last working day of the month in order to be eligible for that month's competition.

Category	Month	Subject
1	April	Waders
2	May	Raptors
3	June	Garden Birds
4	July	Bushveld Birds
5	August	Nectar Feeders
6	September	Water Birds

For more information and the submission of entries pls contact **Linda Desmet** (linda.desmet@riotinto.com)

5. Upcoming Events

Our Next Meeting

Our next club meeting will be held on Tuesday, 5th July 2011 at the Mondi Sports Grounds conference room (Woodpeckers) in Richards Bay at 19h00. The theme is Spots.

The Next Special Interest Group Meeting

The Committee has decided to implement Special Interest Groups (SIG) that will meet once a month additional to our normal Club meetings for those who want to learn more about specific areas of photography. It will give members the chance to learn from each other, go to different places to take photographs and get to use equipment that they may not have access to. There will be a coordinator for each group who will arrange the meetings/ outings.

The SIG's will be as follows:

Macro Photography with coordinator Hendrik Louw
 Studio Photography with coordinator Manie Combrinck
 Wildlife Photography with coordinator Sias van Schalkwyk
 Photoshop with coordinator Peter Martin.

We will inform you per email of the next planned Special Interest Group (SIG) meeting.

PSSA Congress Hartebeespoort 1 – 6 October 2011

Hartebeespoort, also known as Harties, is a small resort town in the North West Province of South Africa, situated on the slopes of the Magaliesberg mountain and the banks of the Hartebeespoort Dam. The name of the town means "gateway of the hartbees" (a species of antelope) in Afrikaans. It was previously known as Schoemansville, named after General Hendrik Schoeman, a Boer General in the Anglo-Boer War, who owned the farm that the Hartebeespoort Dam was built on. Hartebeespoort is home to the Om Die Dam (English: Around the dam) ultra marathon of 50 km, which takes place annually in the first half of the year.

With so much to offer, Harties has become the playground for Gauteng and North West. The town consists mainly of holiday homes around the dam. Be it outdoor activities, a smorgasbord of restaurants and lively pubs, diverse shopping experiences or an excellent break-away, Harties offers visitors an array of authentic experiences. The 20 square kilometer dam, perfectly set at the foothills of the majestic Magaliesberg Mountains, is a mere 30 minutes from Johannesburg and Pretoria where the Jacaranda trees will be in full bloom at the time.

Early Bird packages expire 30 June 2011. Make sure you do not miss out!
 Registration form attached. List of accommodation attached.

WHAT TO BUDGET

Early Bird Packages expire on 30 June 2011

Early Bird Package 1: (Congress fee only, no accommodation): R990 pp until 30 June, R1200 pp after
 Early Bird Rustic Package 2: (Congress fee & accommodation): R1600 pp until 30 June, R1800 pp after
 Early Bird Bushveld Package 3: (Congress fee & accommodation): R1900 pp until 30 June, R2100 pp after
 Early Bird Guest House Package 4: (Congress fee & accommodation): R2400 pp until 30 June, R2600 pp after

Non-PSSA members add R400 for individual membership or R510 for joint membership on fees quoted above

WHERE TO STAY

For Early Bird Packages 2, 3 and 4 above, you can book with Madelene Kruger at madelene.di@connectit.co.za or contact her on 083 273 4076.

For more accommodation options to be booked by you, check out the attached list.

WHAT TO EXPECT (included in Congress fee)

- Plenty options, you can customise your own programme at your own leisure!
- Sponsor specials and discounts (coupon book)
- For the opening night of Congress 2011, a spitbraai with a drumming event
- Three meals a day, except two dinners on own account (more than 50 restaurants in a 20 km radius)
- Coffee and rusks early morning
- Early morning mountain hikes for nature and landscape photos or vistas around the dam
- Catered breakfast & lunch every day
- Plenty of workshops and interesting talks
- Excellent national and international speakers
- A day safari excursion armed with a coolbox
- A potjiekos dinner followed by a rock concert
- A bushveld braai after a showing of all panels on one of the evenings
- Movies on Ansel Adams, Henri Cartier-Bresson
- The Honours banquet on the final evening!

WHAT ELSE TO DO (entry fees apply)

A thrill a minute and you are there with your camera!

- A Model Shoot (only 160 delegates will be able to attend at R60 pp)
- Daily photo competitions on previous day's photos (R10)
- The Magalies Canopy Tour
- The Ama Zwing Zwing Zip Line Tour
- Toro Ya Me cruises on the dam
- The Welwitschia Country Market
- The Chameleon Village Lifestyle Junction and Reptile Park
- Bill Harrop's balloon Safaris
- Discover Ballooning
- Bush Babies - The Monkey Sanctuary
- The Sun Africa Art Shopping Experience
- The Elephant Sanctuary
- The Anne van Dyk Cheetah Centre
- The De Wildt 4x4 trails
- The Miracle Waters Scuba Experience
- The Sparkling Waters Health Spa
- The Cradle of Humankind

www.pssa.co.za for more information and links to all the above events


PSSA Magazine Competition

It is PSSA magazine competition time again. We will be entering the competition again this year so hold your thumbs! The closing date is 31st July 2011 and the winners will be announced at the Congress.


6. Salons 2010

Get all the information on the upcoming salons from the PSSA website at www.pssa.co.za. We also wish to remind you that a trophy is awarded to the Club member who receives the most number of Salon acceptances during the year. You must therefore ensure that you enter as many salons as possible. You also need salon acceptances to be promoted from three to four star and four to five star.

JUNE 2011	SALON	Randburg Photo Club Digital Salon
	COUNTRY	Gauteng, South Africa
	CLOSING DATE	17th June 2011
	JUDGING DATE	
	INFO	<p>Salon Director: Piet Enslin (c) 082 922 5213 email: piet.enslin@telkomsa.net</p> <p>Categories:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nature (excl birds & landscapes) • Nature (birds only) • Open • Monochrome (buildings) <p>Rules and Regulations</p> <p> Click for Notice of Salon</p>

JULY 2011	SALON	Highveld Digital Images Salon
	COUNTRY	South Africa
	CLOSING DATE	23rd July 2011
	JUDGING DATE	
	INFO	<p>Salon Director: James Harris LPSSA (c) 082 903 1926 email: jcharris@mweb.co.za</p> <p>Categories:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nature • Nature (birds only) • Photo Journalism • Pictorial <p>Rules and Regulations</p> <p> Rules and Regulations</p>

JULY 2011	SALON	French AV Salon
	COUNTRY	France
	CLOSING DATE	30th July 2011
	JUDGING DATE	
	INFO	<p>Salon Director: James Harris LPSSA (c) 082 903 1926 email: jcharris@mweb.co.za</p> <p>Categories:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Audio Visual <p>Contact details and info:</p> <p>www.riresetchansonsendiaporama.com</p> <p>diaporamaconcept@orange.fr</p>

AUGUST 2011	SALON	Krugersdorp National Salon
	COUNTRY	Krugersdorp, South Africa
	CLOSING DATE	6th August 2011
	JUDGING DATE	
	INFO	<p>Salon Director: Willem van Zyl (c) 082 452 4050 email: vanzy_wi@mtn.co.za</p> <p>Categories:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nature General (no birds) • Nature (birds only) • Pictorial General • Pictorial – human portraits • Pictorial – photojournalism • Manipulated Nature <p>Rules and Regulations</p> <p> Brochure</p>

Congratulations to Manie Combrinck whose images were accepted at the recent Vanderbijlpark Digital Images Salon of 2011. Below are the images.



Airtime 4 – pictorial sport



Koffiebaai surfer – pictorial sport



Seekoei geveg – Nature – COM



Puppy – pictorial open



Bouncer 1 – pictorial sport

7. Member News

7.1 June Club Competition

Congratulations to all the winners and COM recipients of our June Club Competition. Here are the images:



Manie Combrinck - Reier Landing



Crissy Crichton - Sunset Fisherman



Manie Combrinck - Lotheni Waterval



Sias van Schalkwyk - Bay tree sunset



Peter Martin - The Boardwalk



Reginald Scully – Houtbay – novice theme winner



Cornelius van der Merwe – connection – advanced open winner



Jane Ferraris – morning beauty – advanced theme & overall winner

Nobby Clarke - Forgotten Dreams – novice open & overall winner – see our Front Page

7.2 Beachcombers Club Members

We would like our members to get to know their fellow members and will try to get photos of all of you so that we can start by learning each other's names! Here is a list of all our paid up members by the end of 2010:

Combrinck Manie & Marthie (and Marnus)	Nell Annett & Danie
Crafford Evert & Nada	Pistorius Gerda
Crichton Chrissy & husband	Sanders Mark
Erasmus Jan	Scully Reginald
Ferraris Allan & Jane	Smith Jeremy
Fordham Gavin	Sneddon Mike & wife
Hamman Johann	Staal Lara
Hibbert Norman & Pauline	Swarts Graeme & Tristan
Homan Hennie	V d Walt Willem
Kemp Elize	v Rooyen Barbara
King Chantelle & husband	v Rooyen Gerhard
Lickfold Peter	van Huyssteen Gerrit
Louw Hendrik & Yvonne	V d Merwe Cornelius
Macdonald Bronwyn & husband	Van Schalkwyk Sias & wife
Martin Peter	van Staden Collette
McCarthy Connie & Hendrik	Weinert Ingrid
Meunier Natascha	Zeelie Werner-Hein
Millin Desmond	Zondi Richman
Morkel Celeste	Maritz Pat
Smith Debbie	Clarke RN Nobby

We would also like to welcome the new members who recently joined:

Ramsay Peter & Beverley
Woodhouse Anthony & Sanet
Dearling Judy

This brings the number of members to 59.

7.3 Nobby Clarke's photo on Getaway Magazine's website!

Nobby writes: My first for Getaway magazine. The image below was placed as one of the runners up of the June Getaway gallery (on their website). Congratulations Nobby!



7.4 Thank you Beachcombers – Chrissy Crichton

Chrissy Crichton would like to say thank you. This is her letter:

Please would you convey my heartfelt thanks to all who contributed towards my 4yr old Grandson Curtis in Australia, at the recent Beachcombers evening, by making a cash donation in exchange for the selection of camera equipment I no longer need. I am delighted to say, today I received the news that Curtis has 'passed the physical test' to have a specialised bicycle made for him by August this year. This will be a tremendous help with his Cerebral Palsy by building up muscles which in turn, will enable him to control his own custom made wheelchair by December. Funds received will go towards these costs. Thank you Beachcombers for your support!

Chrissy Crichton and Curtis x



7.5 Chantelle King's photos published in Pix Magazine!

Chantelle writes: The magazine publishes a selection of photos from their social network (www.pixmag.ning.com) members' submissions each month and I was VERY surprised and excited when I saw my photos of a dragonfly published in the April/May edition and our "pet" Flower Mantid (he's made a home in the rose bush in front of my office window) published in the June/July edition. Below are the photos. Congratulations Chantelle!



Dragonfly



Rose Camouflage

7.6 Bird Photographic Competition 2011 – Manie Combrinck

Manie already has 2 winners in this monthly competition hosted by Rio Tinto Palabora Mining Company Ltd. His image “spoonbill” that was entered for the Waders Category, Fanatic section has been awarded a First Place! And another image, “plover”, that was entered for the same category received a Third Place!

The prize giving will take place at the annual Birdwatch Event on Saturday, 29 October 2011.

Here are the winning images:



Plover



Spoonbill

8. Promotions

Congratulations to our members on the following promotions:

From 1 to 2 star:

Werner-Hein Zeelie

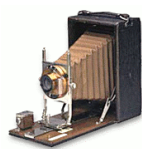
From 3 to 4 star:

Des Millin



Well done and keep snapping!

9. Buying or selling?



NOTE POSTED BY DES JACOBS

I need a 40D, 50D or perhaps a 550D Canon camera with at least an 18-55mm lens. I am willing to pay up to R 8000.00. Furthermore I want to sell the following:

- 2 x Canon 350D bodies
- Canon 350D (Black) 18-55mm IS Lens
- Canon Battery Grip
- Canon 350D (Silver) - Body only
- 2 x Canon NB-2LH Batteries
- Canon Wired Remote Controller
- 1 x 1Gb CF Card
- 1 x 2Gb CF Card
- 1 x 4Gb CF Card
- Software and Cables included

The Black 350D is still like new and was used as backup camera. The silver 350D have a lot of work done for me but is still taking very good photos. The viewfinder rubber on the eyepiece on the silver 350D is missing.

Des Jacobs magicrock@lantic.net

NOTE POSTED BY THYS VAN DER MERWE

Canon EOS 1d MarkII camera for sale. Professional camera: 8.2 Megapixel, 8.5 Frames per second. Camera in excellent condition with charger, battery and dc connector in original box. Price: **R9000.** (I have 2 available). Contact Thys van der Merwe: thys@vividafrika.co.za Tel: 083 441 3108



NOTE POSTED BY CHRISSY CRICHTON

Does anyone have or know where I can get a Canon Digital IXUSUS 860 IS?

Chrissy Crichton
Cell: 083 519 3003

NOTE POSTED BY JANE FERRARIS

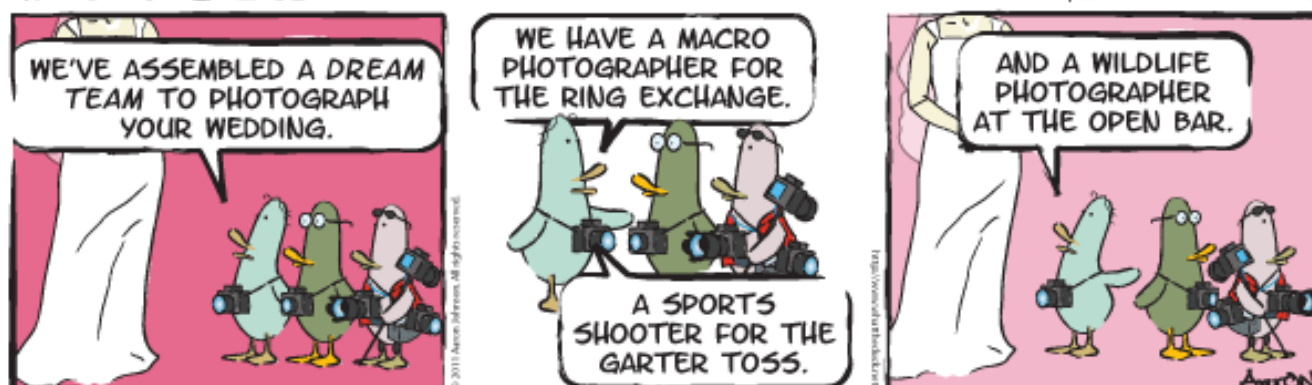
FOR SALE:
Canon EF-S 18-200 mm f 3.5-5.6 IS lens
Cash price:R4,000.
Contact Jane Ferraris: 073 1637219 or janef@canonrb.co.za



10. Last laugh

<http://www.whattheduck.net>

What The Duck



WTD 1273

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11. The Committee

<p>President: Manie Combrinck Cell: 082 490 5075</p> 	<p>Vice President & Finances: Annett Nell Cell: 083 630 7613</p> 	<p>Secretary: Marthie Combrinck Cell: 082 879 9249</p> 	<p>Web Master: Sias van Schalkwyk Cell: 083 229 9258</p> 
<p>Driftwood Editor: Nada Crafford Cell: 082 899 7658</p> 	<p>Additional member: Hennie Homann Cell: 082 898 1204</p> 	<p>Additional member: Werner-Hein Zeelie Cell: 082 214 6117</p>	

Please email any information that other members might find interesting to me at nadacrafford@gmail.com so that it can be put in the Driftwood.