VIEWFINDER

SUMMER OUTING

BOAT TRIP round Chichester Harbour on Sunday 5th July. FINALLY a fine day for our outing! A day of sun, cloud and wind but NO RAIN - HURRAY! 14 Steyning members and 9 Henfield members met up for the boat trip The trip took 1 1/2 hours and our captain gave a good commentary about the history, wildlife and features of the harbour. He also talked about some of the more interesting boats in the harbour, especially the old wooden sailing boats. After the trip we had a picnic in the car park and then some of us went for a walk around the harbour shoreline.





Let's hope for a sunny day!

COFFEE MORNING

SATURDAY, 1ST AUGUST

at 3 COXHAM LANE, STEYNING

10.30 - 12 noon

Dave and Joan are our hosts again this year. Coffee and biscuits will be served at a cost of 50p per person. Please bring something for the raffle and the 'Bring and Buy' stall. Parking is very limited in Coxham Lane - the school car park on the Horsham Road is not far away.

STEYNING CAMERA CLUB ANNUAL EXHIBITION

Our Annual Exhibition is to be held at Steyning Library from 24th August to 5th September. We will be setting up on the Monday morning at 9.30am. Please bring along any prints you wish to display or, if this is not possible, please deliver them to Cliff or Rex beforehand.

NEW SEASON STARTS on Wednesday 9th September 1998.

COMPETITION REPORT

We have met with mixed fortune in the inter-club competitions this year, everything from top to bottom.

In November of last year we submitted work for the Regnum Print Competition, in which thirteen clubs participated. Steyning finished in 6th place but can claim to have headed the smaller clubs. We also derived pleasure with Cliff scoring a twenty for his picture of Byron.

The Adur Trophy followed in December. This is an eight slide competition and the club was represented by eight different members. We achieved third place out of four, but it was close and only six points separated us from Henfield, the winners. Steyning had two of the five twenties awarded and ken's Morar Fire was adjudged best slide of the evening.

In March we travelled to Horsham for a 'Match a Slide contest with Horsham and Southwick. This was an enjoyable fun evening which Steyning won. We achieved eighteen best slides which was more than either of the opposing teams.

The Crouch Slide Competition was somewhat disappointing. Once again thirteen clubs were involved and after our finish in third place last year hopes were high. In the event we tied in eighth place although our score was only eight points fewer than Crawley, the eventual winners.

We made up for this in April when we saw off the challenges of Littlehampton, Henfield, Shoreham, Southwick and Storrington to win the West Sussex Gazette Trophy. Special congratulations to Cliff, who scored twenties, and Ken with one twenty. At last we had a judge who fully appreciated the finer points of photography!!

The competition year ended with the City Camera Exchange Challenge with competing clubs submitting five prints and five slides. We were represented by ten different members, which was splendid, but had to be content with a tied third place with Southwick, following Seaford (the winners) and Shoreham.

We are now in the 'getting ready' time before the next round of competitions, which will include, of course, our own club evenings. I expect the set subject titles are known to you - 'Blues', 'Wet Wet Wet', 'Wood' and 'Shadows'. There seem to be many ways in which these themes can be interpreted and I hope a wide range of new work will be forthcoming. It was great to see the Snapshot Competition well supported, with some splendid pictures, so do start preparing for the coming season. We will see a new format for the open slide competition involving, for the first time, two groups. Finally a couple of words for the printers - get printing! I'm sure there are many enjoyable evenings to come.

REX

TECHNOLOGY

(or the lack of it) - a Continuing Saga

Standing. Minding my own business. Eye to viewfinder. Squaring up. Have spotted a relationship between a lamp and a steeple. Close one eye. Squint at the lamp. Would look quite good pin sharp. Looks bigger than the distant church from here. I know. Minimise depth of field. Open up to f1.7 and focus in close on the lamp, throwing the steeple out and making it look a bit surreal. Bright sky. Check meter reading against my hand. Click. Try another. A bit darker at f2.8. Hmm. Not bad. You know the one. You've seen it.

Turn round to search for next subject. My god ! A man. Standing close. Too close. Looking on with interest.

"It's a Pentax!" he says. *(Reminds me of when a man on the moors said "It's a tripod!", having thought it was a crossbow. But that's another story.)* "And an old one too."

Acknowledge the man.

"Yes. Never used anything else. Swear by them. Does everything I could ever want - light and small, aperture priority, simple. Lets you concentrate on taking pictures rather than technicalities."

Commence timewarp. I come forward, recalling the techno-salesman from an earlier article. Man goes backwards.

"Preferred the earlier model myself. They just put a few go-faster stripes on the ME didn't they. Don't know why they didn't stick with the MX. Lovely, silky shutter. Simple. just a couple of lights inside and a window to see the numbers. None of these flashing lights. And you could change the viewing screen! Just like the LX. Now there was a piece of gear. Feel the quality. The seals were all dampened with a special oil you know. Protected it from knocks and cold. Vintage. From the same stock as the Spotmatic. They don't make them like that these days do they. Do you that the wijlweiutldgevv....."

His anorak was a blue colour. Sort of blue-grey. Matched his shoes.

Eyes glazing over. Is this real ? Am I caught hopelessly between techno-salesman and this nostalgic ? Or is he me ? Do I sound like him when justifying the old ME Super, when sounding off about techno-salesman, when teasing AF SLR users ? I probably do.

Why is he interested anyway ? Picture of lamp and steeple is far more interesting. Pictures are must more interesting. Think about this man at home, drooling over the quality of his paintbrush when his wife just wants the woodwork painted.

Smile apologetically. Piercing scream hits the air. Children killing each other. My children! Loud. Nightmare. Normal. "Sorry! Have to go before pictures take on forensic significance." Run like hell.

.....Ken Scott



CHICHESTER CAMERA CLUB

welcome you to their
ANNUAL EXHIBITION
at the Assembly Rooms,
North Street, Chichester
Tues 28th July - Sat. 8th August



PROGRAMME REMINDER - COMPETITION SUBJECTS

7th October "Wood" **4th November "The Blues"**
6th January "Wet, Wet, Wet" **17th February "Shadows"**

THE YEAR OF PHOTOGRAPHY AND DIGITAL IMAGING EXHIBITION

The Regnum Crouch Group organised a Photography and Digital Print Exhibition from 18th to 25th July at the Town Council Chambers, Littlehampton. for The Year of Photography 1998. We submitted 10 prints for this exhibition and these were shown alongside prints from the other 12 photographic clubs in our region. I am sure that everybody who visited this exhibition will have enjoyed it as the variety of subject matter and printing styles was very interesting and the quality of work was excellent. I think that the organisers from the Regnum should be congratulated for all the hard work that was put into making this exhibition possible. Thank you also to those members who submitted their work.

Cliff