Number 13 **Steyning Camera Club** December 1999

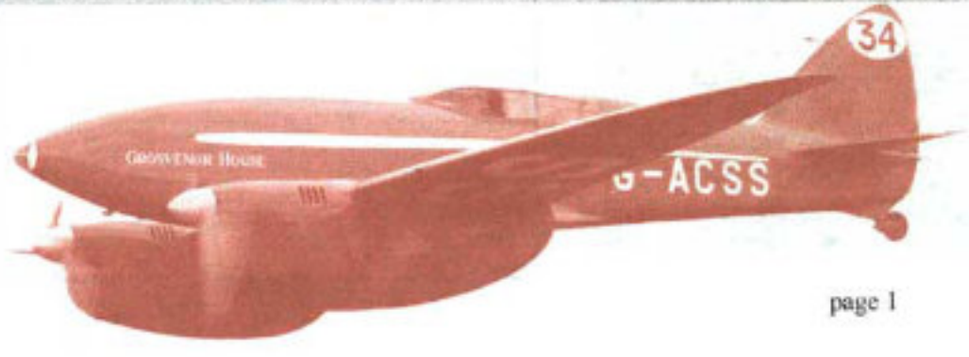
Cliff Elvin

VIEWFINDER

A Great Step Forward

It's that time again! I hope the season finds you all in good cheer and looking forward to the New Year with relish.
I promise not to mention THAT word beginning with M. I for one have had quite enough of the retrospective. It is one thing to review the last year, and quite understandable to take a look at the last century, but constant examination of the best goal of the M or the pop record of the M or the greatest photograph of the M are just driving me mad.
Let's look forward instead to a major advance for our Club. As I mentioned at the last Club evening, we have now been accepted into membership of the Southern Photographic Federation and, therefore, affiliation of the Photographic Alliance of Great Britain, the PAGB.
We have never been members of a PAGB federation, so why did we decide that now is the right time ? Well firstly you may not know just how difficult a job Steve has had this year in finding judges and speakers of high quality from the Regnum Crouch area. It is vital to improve the quality and variety of the programme, and we now have access to a whole range of new competitions and exhibitions, and to handbooks of judges and speakers from across the country, which should achieve that aim. Secondly, we can take advantage of a very good and low-cost insurance scheme.
You might be asking why our membership of the Regnum Crouch Group does not provide the same benefits ? As far as I understand it, the Regnum Crouch Group exists mainly to run the slide and print conventions that we enter each year along with ten other West Sussex clubs.
There is also a Sussex Photographic Federation serving a similar purpose for East Sussex clubs, although some clubs belong to both. Unfortunately neither is sufficiently large to allow member clubs to affiliate to the PAGB.
Until a couple of years ago, Sussex clubs affiliated to the PAGB through membership of the Central Association, which has now ceased to exist. Now when we look at the map of federations affiliated to the PAGB, we see that our region is covered by the Surrey Photographic Federation, and many clubs have maintained their PAGB links by joining with Surrey. Surrey and Kent both have fine federations which are progressive and well organised, but I think we all felt that Sussex means Sussex, and the Southern Photographic Federation, which expressly covers Hampshire and West Sussex, is much more representative for us whilst enjoying similar high standing.
I think this is a fine decision by the Committee, and represents a great step forward. I remain personally committed to progress, especially as so many clubs have struggled to survive, and I hope that this is just one step to ensuring that we stay vibrant and successful.
Once again, may I wish you all the best for Christmas and the New Year.

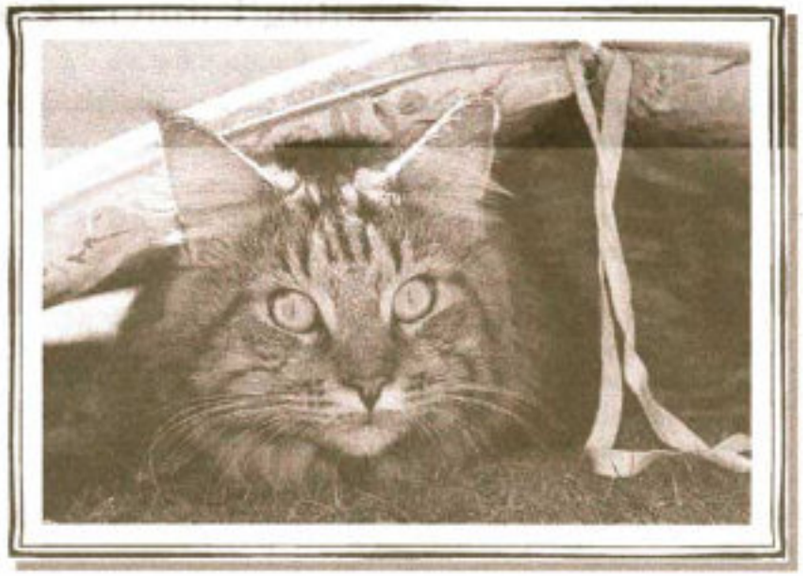
Ken



DESPERATE EDITOR

The editor is desperate for more images to use in your newsletter, if you have any please contact me.
Slides, negatives or un-mounted prints can all be scanned at low resolution suitable for printing on these pages.
Your points of view are most welcome.

Contact Cliff
on a club evening.



PRINT & SLIDE FILMS

Don't forget that by collating individual requirements we can obtain some very competitive prices on most types of film. you can contact me at club meetings or give me a call on 01903 813885. The savings are made through buying 10 or the same **or** mixed films and using discount suppliers. All film is fresh stock.

Dave Sherwin



PRINT MOUNTING - PROBLEMS?

Is there anyone thinking of entering a print in the next competition who may need a helping hand or some guidance with the presentation? I have purchased ivory and black mounting card along with backing material which will be available at about half High Street prices. When it actually comes to cutting out and mounting the print I would be prepared to give any assistance and/or advice you may need. It looks a little daunting at first but it really is not that difficult. If you have your own materials and only need to cut it to size, just ask!

Dave Sherwin

BASIC JARGON BUSTER

Aperture The opening of the lens which lets the light into the camera and exposes the film. Opening the lens by one stop doubles the amount of light reaching the film. Closing down by one stop halves the amount of light reaching the film.

Depth of Field The area in front of and behind the point of focus where the image will still appear to be acceptably sharp.

F-Stop The scale used to express the lens setting (or aperture) i.e. f2.8, f11, etc.

Film Speed The arithmetic measurement of a film's sensitivity to light. Usually given in ISO i.e. 400 ISO film is eight times more sensitive to light than 50 ISO. Higher film speed tends to be used in darker situations or when a faster shutter speed is required (e.g. action shots)

ISO International Standards Organisation. A numerical rating of a film's sensitivity to light. The higher the number, the more sensitive the film is to light.

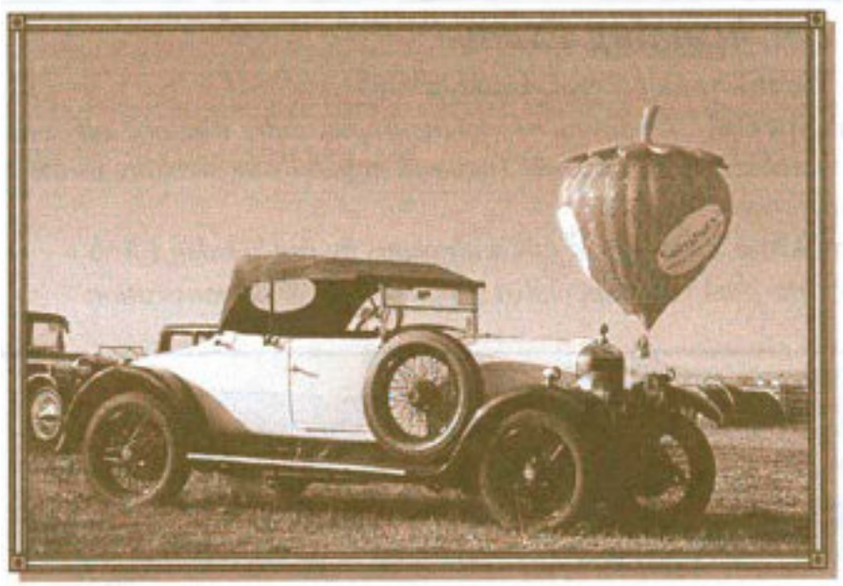
Panning Method of photographing a moving subject by following the action with the camera during exposure, keeping the subject sharp but blurring the background.

Prime Lens A fixed focal length lens, e.g. 50mm.

Wide Angle Lens A lens which gives a field of view greater than 55mm on a 35mm camera. Popular 35mm wide angle lenses include 28mm, 24mm and 18mm.

Zoom Lens A lens manufactured in a way that its focal length can be altered. e.g. typical zoom lens for a 35mm camera has a variable focal length of 28mm to 70mm.

The members of the committee wish everybody a very happy, healthy and productive New Year.



Please note

The deadline for the next viewfinder is 1st March 2000

The REGNUM CROUCH PRINT COMPETITION 15th November 1999

The most important competition for prints that our club takes part in was hosted by Worthing Camera Club and judged by Bill Wisden FRPS. .
This year the number of clubs taking part had dropped to ten with Horsham not entering and Haywards Heath Club unfortunately folding. The overall winners were Chichester with 108 points closely followed by Bognor and Crawley on 105 points, Steyning came a very creditable fifth with 100 points.
The top slide of the evening was judged to be 'Basketball Practice, Havanna' by Steve Tilbury from the Mid Sussex Club.
I'm sure we can do even better than this, so good luck and enjoy your photography during 2000!

Photo Hunt Results at Henfield

This was a most enjoyable evening and we were treated to mulled wine, snacks, mince pies, cake and a great selection of interpretations of the set subjects by the competitors.The competition took place at the Bluebell Railway station at Horsted Keynes, the day and subjects were organised by Paul Sumption.

The winner, after many twists and turns on the scoreboard was Peter McCoy of Henfield, closely followed by Ian Betts with Roger Tapner coming in an excellent fourth overall and winning the Peter Crook Trophy for Steyning.

The task to analyse so many slides is enormous and Paul did a great job, encouraging and constructive, especially as this was the first time he had undertaken such a challenge.
Well done Paul, the winners and all who took part.

Please try to support this event in 2000 as it is an enjoyable day out and a revelation to see many different interpretations of each subject. Details will be announced later in the season.

Forthcoming Events

19th January 2000 **Audio Visual** *by Monty and Linda Mostyn*
16th February 2000 **Digital Special** *with Solutions inc. the AppleCentre who are our area suppliers of Apple Mac computers and all the peripherals.They will hopefully be showing us the latest equipment and giving demonstrations.*
15th March 2000 **The Invisible Element** *a talk with prints by Bill Wisden FRPS*
29th March 2000 **NOVA** *the dark room specialist suppliers talk & demonstration*

Happy New Year