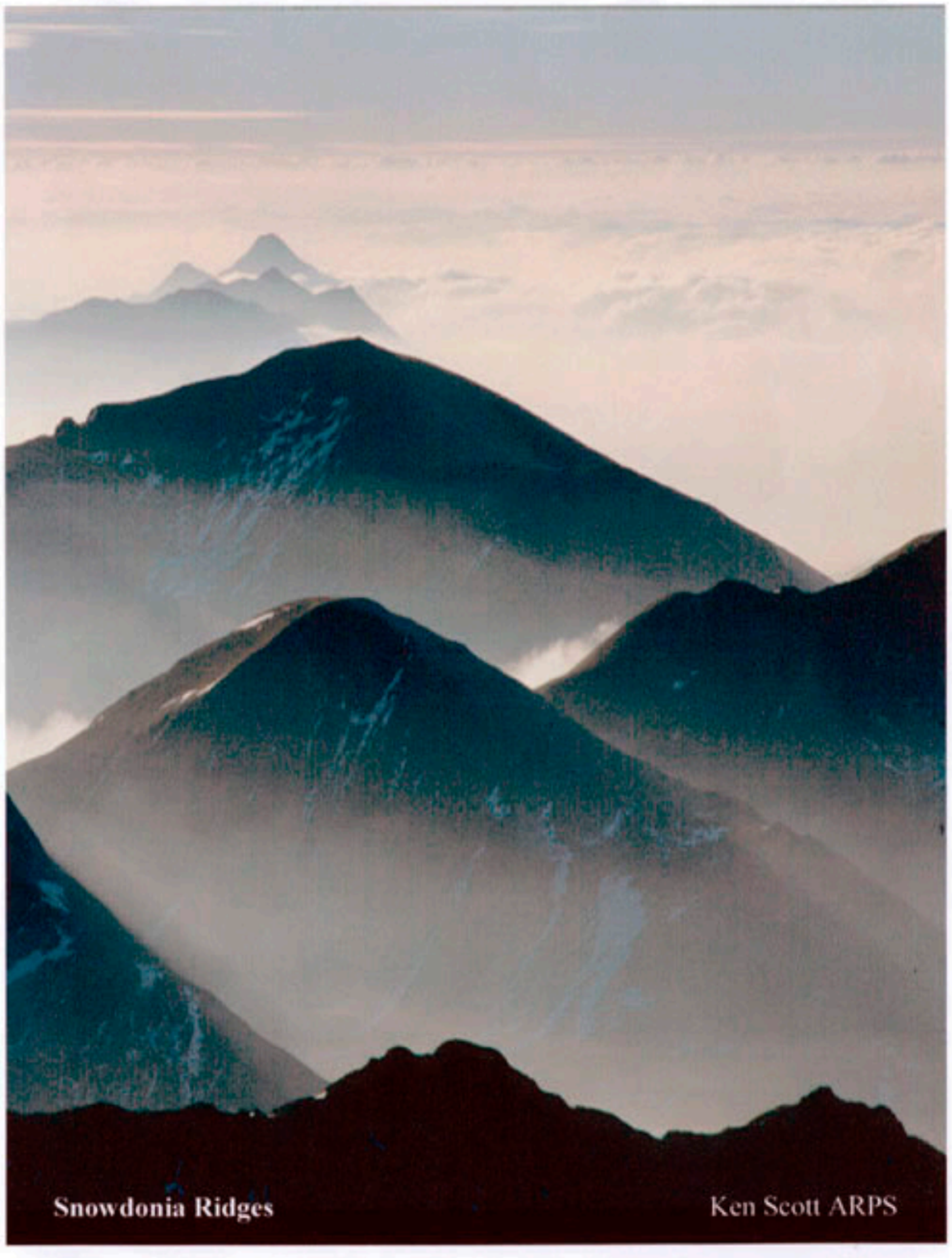
VIEWFINDER

STEYNING CAMERA CLUB Number 14



Spring Imaging **Hints & Tips** **Forthcoming Events**

It's That Time of Year Again

I know we are only just into March, but very soon our end of Season will be once again here - and that means we will be looking for help on the Club Committee.

In any Club, a good team performs a vital role in keeping the Club running, and I believe that it is important for people to rotate so as to keep their interest fresh, and to bring new ideas to the various jobs. I am at the end of my intended three years in the Chair, but, at the time of writing, I do not know yet of everyone's intentions to stand again next year.

If you are worried about coming forward for reasons of workload, you needn't be as we meet only about 4 or 5 times in a season. So if you think you would like to make a contribution to the running of the Club by joining the team then please let me or John Mundy know. All positions will be notified prior to the AGM in the usual way.

…… Ken Scott

NOVA

Live Photographic
Printing Demonstration
Wednesday 29th March

Music Society Project

You're probably wondering why things have gone a little quiet with the project that we are jointly pursuing with Steyning Music Society.

In fact things are anything but quiet on the music front, with composer Michael Finnissy putting the finishing touches to the piece as I write. By his own admission he is several months later than he would have liked, which gives much less time to construct the AV. However, life always balances itself and this does mean we have slightly more time to make photographs.

I am still on the lookout for subjects and if you can provide me with anything before the end of March there is a very good chance it will be included in the AV :-

1. Wave forms
1. Abstract light and colour on water
1. Outdoor portraits with a nostalgic feel

The piece is called "Etched Bright with Sunlight", which might give some more subject clues.

There are some dates you should know about :-

Between now and May - I will be working on the AV and would welcome some assistance. It is a long process, but will be of great interest if you have any interest in learning more about AV. Details to follow.

Friday May 5th - a pre-concert talk by the WEA. At this event Michael Finnissy and I will be presenting a discussion around the creation of the piece. Any other members willing to participate will be welcome. Tickets are otherwise available at £3.50.

Saturday 6th May - The Premiere of "Etched Bright with Sunlight" in Coombe Court Hall. Pianist Nicholas Hodges will present the piece, accompanied live by our pictures in AV format. Tickets £6.00. Booking forms are available in the Steyning Centre reception if you haven't picked one up yet. We have also been invited to put up a small exhibition in the Committee Rooms - more details to follow.

Saturday 24th June - a concert repeat, this time with Michael playing, at the Horsham Arts Festival.

..... Ken Scott



SET Subject Competition

The entry for this year's Lewis Cup competition was a little disappointing. Only ten members submitted slides. This compares with twenty-one members taking part in the open slide competition. The four categories for this year have been selected before the AGM and will give you a longer 'thinking and snapping' time. the subjects are Patterns in Nature, Fences and Walls, Movement and Round Things. Many of this year's slides were clearly taken in and around the house or garden so it's not always necessary to go far afield. Remember the slides must be taken this year, that is from 1st January 2000. Give it a bit of thought and have a go.

CROUCH SLIDE COMPETITION

This will be held on Friday, 24th March at Henfield in the Henfield Village Hall and try to arrive soon after 7pm to get good seats.. The competition always produces some splendid slides and is an evening to be enjoyed. Last year eleven West Sussex Camera Clubs took part and Steyning came 7th. Can we do better this year? Come and see.
Lifts will be available, please ring Ken, Cliff or me for more information.

Rex



COFFEE MORNING 2000 at 3 Coxham Lane on SATURDAY 5th August 10.30am to 12 noon.

This year Dave and Joan will be pleased to host our annual coffee morning and our Bring'n Buy stall. We will also run a raffle, so items for the stall and the raffle will be welcome and given that our good luck with the weather will continue we hope to raise extra funds for the club.

Although the event is not advertised locally please feel free to invite your friends along too. Last year we had considerable support from the Flower Club members for which we are grateful. We hope that by publishing the date at this stage it will enable you to pencil it in your diaries early! Parking in Coxham Lane is somewhat restricted but Horsham Road school car park is not too far away, and plenty of space.

Please come and support the event - we look forward to meeting you - hopefully in the sunshine! Not bad value for 60p per person.

Dave



REMINDER

Subjects for next season

Patterns in Nature

Fences and Walls

Movement

Round Things

Passion for Photography (or Photography for Passion)?

When we are asked about our hobbies, I would think all of us will mention photography as a major interest. Perhaps it is even a passion in itself.

There are so many aspects of photography that can arouse our interest: the equipment, darkroom processes, the challenge of overcoming particular technical difficulties, the socialising, maybe even an image or two. I mention the image last because it is so often missing. To my own mind, photography is all about the image, with everything else being simply tools and techniques of the trade.

Over the years, I have developed a passion for many different types of images. But you all know that my real passion is for being outdoors in the mountains or deserts, for riding my luck and, occasionally, being able to capture the wonderful things I see.

You see my passion isn't really for photography at all, but for a subject that is worth preserving in a set of photographic images.

An invaluable piece of help that I could give to any beginning photographer would be to think about things that interest you about life, things that arouse your emotions and excitement, and then to go and take pictures of them. With practice you will generate your own excitement for the subject in your audience because it will have your heart in it.

A quote attributed to a number of visionaries - "In order to see, it is insufficient merely to open our eyes; first we must open our heart" - sums up what I am saying.

A Camera helps us to see when we don't have it with us. It helps us to appreciate shapes and colours and shadows and relationships that we would never know existed. Then photography becomes an extension of our passion for something else.

And eventually, one learns to appreciate all types of images as expressions of someone else's passion. We can feel their own excitement. And we can experiment ourselves with new interests and directions.

Remember Dr. Dave Storey for example. Is he an astronomer or a photographer ? Did you feel his passion ? And for a "non-photographer" his pictures were stunningly good.

Bill Wisden once said to me ". . . to make good pictures you have to respect, understand and feel for your subject. . ."

So next time someone asks you about your hobbies and interests, try not to include photography. Say you are passionate about engineering, or lightning, or rugby, or butterflies, or people, or . . . . and that photography helps you communicate and understand it.

Develop photography to fuel your passion. It is bound to help with both.

. . .. Ken Scott ARPS

Coming soon;

12th April

Slide and Print of the Year Judge Colin Westgate

26thApril

Member's Show Night 6 prints or slides on a theme

Steyning Horticultural Society

Annual Spring Show

Saturday 25th March 2000

We have again been invited to exhibit a selection of our prints at this years show. If you have any prints of flowers, gardens or any suitable natural history could you please bring them to the Main Hall at the Centre after 10am on the morning or ring Cliff or Rex.

The show itself is well worth visiting and is open to the public from 2.30pm in the Main Hall at the Steyning Centre

Have you any points of view about our new format for the Viewfinder? Ideas or short articles and even some different images are always most welcome to include in your own newsletter, please have a chat with Cliff or Ken.
Have an good Spring and keep the film processors busy!

Best Wishes *Cliff*