Not to be Missed

Don't miss *Tony Tracey's* talk "Creative Slides" on Valentines Day.

It is quite rare these days to come across photography in the Club circles which is new, refreshing and exciting. This lecture by *Tony Tracey FRPS* is all those things. In this aspect of Tony's work, he subjects his slides to some terrible abuse in various household chemicals and produces the most beautiful effects. And his short AV piece is quite fantastic.

Tony is a master of the art and we can expect to see some unusual and beautiful slides. Take note for future competitions and, of course, for one's own pleasure!

On March 13th there is a practical session on night photography. Venue, weather permitting, will be Brighton where there should be lots of opportunities around the piers and sea front area. We aim to meet at the Steyning Centre car park early in the evening. If the weather is unkind then we retire to a local inn to reconsider. **Don't forget your camera and flash!**

Make a note in your diary for the 27th March. We are due to be entertained with a 19th Century slide show by *Don and Marjorie Attle* entitled "The World of the Magic Lantern". Should be fascinating!

Henfield Camera Club are this years host for the **West Sussex Gazette Cup** competition, to be held on the **12th April.**

Don't forget our own **Slide and Print of the Year competition on 24th April** to be judged this year by *Clive Munday.* Go on - surprise us!

Finally on 8th May there is our A.G.M. and Social Evening, the last chance of a get together before the summer recess. The club celebrates its 25th anniversary in 1997 so we shall need to start thinking about a celebration or two. I could go on but you will find more details of our remaining club competitions elsewhere in this newsletter.

Roger Tapner
Chairman

Photo Hunt Result

The finale of the Photo Hunt with Henfield Camera Club came with the judging of the slides by *Ian Betts.*

We are delighted to learn that *Angela Rixon* won overall for Henfield but Steyning were not far behind with *Margaret Tulley* winning for Steyning in 5th place overall and *Dave Sherwin* runner up and in 6th place overall.

Well done to the winners and to everyone who took part in this fun event. Steyning had a bigger entry this year than before and would have had another three or four competitors but for holidays and illness so let's hope more of us will take part - it's a good learning exercise.



Steyning
Camera Club
Newsletter

NUMBER 7
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Editor: Jim Jenkins

Appeal from Hon. Sec.

***Ken Scott* is retiring at the A.G.M. on May 8th so we shall need a new Programme Secretary.**

All officers and members of committee are also eligible for retirement at the A.G.M. so if any of you are willing to serve in any capacity, please come forward.

Nominations with the consent of nominee to Hon. Sec. by April 10th please.

Spring 1997 will be the 25th Anniversary of this Club. Suggestions and ideas for celebrating this event will be very welcome for consideration by committee.

We are hoping to hold an exhibition this coming summer so we shall need plenty of new prints and slides.

Dolly has retired from making refreshments at club meetings. We thank her for all the hard work in the past. ***Gill*** has volunteered to continue, with help from ***Audrey and Virginia*** BUT plenty of help with the washing up is ALWAYS welcome.

Ron Clay is out of hospital and we wish him a speedy recovery at home and hope it will not be too long before he is able to come along to club meetings.

Hilda Metcalfe

What's Inside?

Competition Secretary's Report.

The new "Snapshot" competition for standard unmounted enprints up to 9" x 6" has proved to be very popular and already some very promising work has been enterred. The new Cup for this competition has been very generously donated by *Vicky Knight* and will be known as ***"The Tony Knight Memorial Cup".*** *Tony,* as many of our long standing members know, was a leading light in our club for many years and will always be remembered for his commitment and hard work.

We are also lucky to have another new cup which will be awarded to the overall winner of the "Open" slide competition. This is a distinctive Celtic style trophy and will known as "The Steyning Bowl".

The Lewis Cup remains as the trophy for the Set Subject slide competition. As this is now specifically for the set subject I will be proposing to change the rules at the AGM not to award double points as at present, in order to simplify the scoring system.

The Matanle Shield also remains for the overall print competition.

Slide Selection.

At the last Committee Meeting we discussed the difficulty of selecting a really good panel of slides and prints for our competitions with other clubs.

It was suggested that the Competition Secretary submitted a list of the highest scoring slides and prints in the internal club competitions as a basis for the selection committee's choice. There was also another suggestion that the club competition rules should be amended to include a rule that all point scoring slides or prints should be made available for selection for use by the club in any outside competitions. **As you can imagine the debating was very lively and the committee would very much like the members' opinions or suggestions for discussion at the next AGM.**

Club Competitions

The current position in the various club competitions is as follows: Lewis Cup (Set subject slides) Angela Rixon and Cliff Carter have 112 points, Virginia Carter 110 points, Peter Crook 108 points. The Steyning Bowl (open slides) - Angela Rixon 59 points, Peter Crook 57 points, Ken Scott 55 points. The Matanle Shield - Angela Rixon and Cliff Carter 60 points, Roger Tapner 45 points, Peter Crook 37 points, and the Tony Knight Memorial Cup (snapshots) - Rex Peters 9 points, Vicky Knight 5 points, Hilda Metcalfe 3 points.

The full score sheets are available for inspection at all the Club evenings and if you have any questions or constructive suggestions please come and see me.

* **Also, one final plea - your support would be very welcome when we attend outside club competitions and social functions - quite often we can take a few club members with us and transport can always be arranged - if you have any problems ring me on 812579.**

*ADUR TROPHY - Tues. 13th February at 7.30pm
Pond Road, Shoreham.

Cliff Carter



A Triumph for a Novice Photographer

Yes, it can be done. Little ol' me scored a couple of 20's recently in the club competitions - much to my surprise and pleasure.

I did put in a bit more thought and effort than usual and it paid off. Being off sick at the time and not venturing far from home it was ideal hunting round the house for unusual glasses and ornaments to put in the sunshine in our conservatory and photograph them with colourful backgrounds.

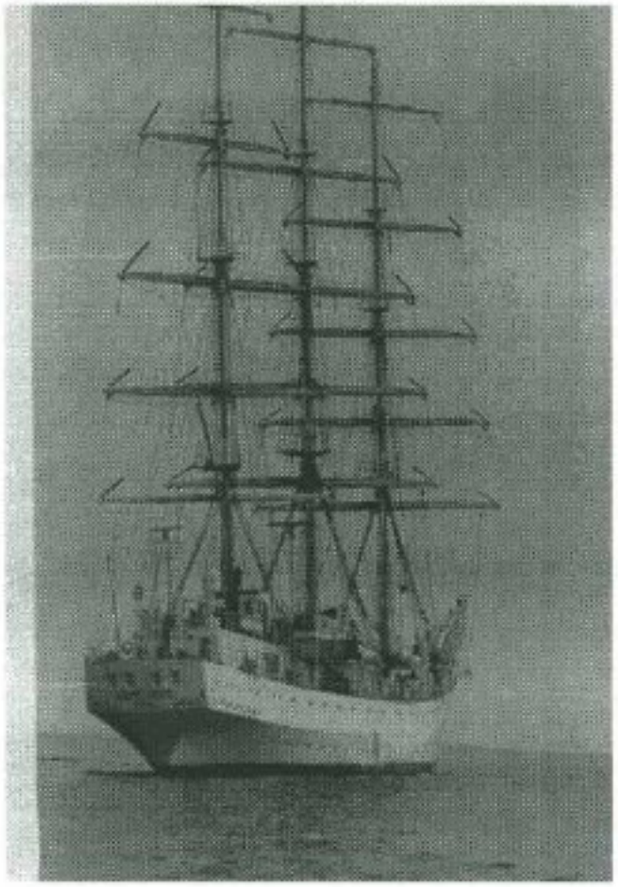
I don't usually expect to get a score higher than about 16, maybe 17 if I'm lucky - more usually 14 or 15 but I enjoy hearing what the judges have to say. I quite often know what they are going to say; "should have been masked", "pity about the electricity and telephone wires", "should have got closer", "flat light" and so on. So I need to remember these comments when I take the photo and not afterwards when I see them on the screen, which is usually the case. No doubt I'll learn eventually.

I do try and make an effort to support the club competitions, because, being the "other half" of the competition secretary, I know that we need slides from more members to increase the numbers of slides in the competition which makes for a better evening for everyone. It is also good to see other members' work, to see what they are interested in photographing and it does improve your technique by hearing other people appraise your work. Even though I know that I shall rarely be in the top three on the evening, occasionally there is an exception as in the "Glass" competition. It has inspired me to make a bit more effort more often and hopefully it won't be too long before I get another nice surprise.

So don't be shy
Have a try
Then, when you score a twenty
You can cry
I've done it!
But I don't know how and why?

(Maybe I could take up poetry as well!!)

Virginia
2nd Reserve Tea Lady



Evening out in Brighton

See page 1 for notice about this event planned for the 14th February.

The plan is we go to town and look out for interesting night scenes. I will be on hand to give some guidance and advice so don't worry if you have never tried night photography before. Some things to think about before we go :-

Look at lots of night pictures. Decide what you like and what you like about it.

Think about how it was done and where you might like to try to reproduce it.

Check out your gear. Read the instruction book.

What does it say about longest auto-exposure times ?

Think about any different gear you might like to take. This may include an 80A blue filter (for tungsten light) or even some tungsten film.

Listen out for more details.

Ken

The Making of One Picture

I once upset a woman in the office when she approached me at the wrong time for some advice about a camera.

"Which should I buy ?" she asked when I was deep in some problem. "Is this one better than that one ?" My retort surprised her and me. I apologised later for being short but I still believe what I said. "They are all as capable as one another," I quipped. **"You just have to point them at something interesting !"**

True words indeed. But we all know that finding that something interesting is the most difficult part. The effort that goes into that 1/125 sec. is disproportionate to just about any other effort you'll ever make. This is the story behind one simple picture.

Wayne and I were lucky to hit the Lake District in November last year at the end of a week which saw the first snowfall on the Northern hills. The long drive was made particularly interesting by the Leonid meteor shower that streaked the crystal clear sky over Shap at 2 a.m. (Cliff had warned me that this might be exciting).

The night was also cold and we woke in Threlkeld to a sharp frost. It is only I who thinks about pictures before I think about breakfast ! The first glow of morning was touching the snow dusted crest of Saddleback to the North and the shutter took its first exercise of the day whilst I downed my pint of tea and some flapjacks (Cookie Coach Company ones from the One-Stop Shop ! Excellent!) Our enthusiasm was already much warmer than the air.

Throughout the morning, a glorious fusion of colour teased our senses. Deep Autumn golds and browns melted into a deep blue sky laced with high cirrus. The white of the new snow and ice on Hall's Fell ridge dazzled against the shadows thrown by the low sun. The climb was relaxing and interspersed as usual by the pauses for photos; wide angles, polarising filters and all sorts.

It's a bare place, Blencathra summit, like all summits, and today it was in a fairly ferocious mood. The air sang with a moderate north-east gale, whipping up stinging spindrift, and lunch was grabbed behind a small shelter wall.

These were not conditions to linger. Camp was planned for a spot way down to the north under Skiddaw, but, despite it being only 2 o'clock, there was no passing by a depression at the spring of a small beck high on Blencathra's northern flank at 2000 feet. Sheltered from the wind, the beck also led off due south-west and I had immediately noticed its potential for a photographic evening of excellence.

Afternoon passed by in a cool but bright relaxation. I could see the clouds were hanging over Skiddaw's flank and the Derwent Fells and was hopeful of the light remaining fine. The wind had sculpted the snow into many small troughs and cornices across the moorland grass giving opportunities for trying out some low angled shots into the late afternoon sun.

By 4:30, I'd had enough. The light had been good but appeared to be dying away, and I was cold. Wayne, bless him, was already in his sleeping bag, smiling quietly at my persistence and unashamed weirdness. He is every bit as inspired by the fantasy landscapes of the mountains and light as I am but is quite content to let the scenes fill his mind without the need of a camera to record them for later. Warm again and preparing to cook the turkey and Chinese noodles on the meths stove, I had to have just one more peek out of the tent door.

The sky was now heavy but a brilliant arc of red and pink and crimson hung beneath the lowest clouds. The beck curved away in the foreground around a series of spurs and, being decked with snow, was still well lit. A catchlight of red in the nearest reach of the beck finished off another moment of coincidence that is mountain light at tits best. Another roll of Sensia was loaded and shot from inside my sleeping bag, elbows and head contorting strangely to avoid the flap of the door, the guy ropes and my ice axe, which was rudely standing just where I didn't need it to be. Well I was not going outside again !

So the "Sunset on Roughten Beck" came into being and was well liked by Don Mitchell last time out. You see, it was just one shot 100 out of or so from the day, but it was almost the last one, and it was the best one. It was almost as though the whole day's effort had come together to enable it to happen.

I had found something interesting to point the camera at. And it only took a fraction of a second !

Ken Scott ARPS