



#4 May 2008

 Australian Photographic Collectors' Society, Inc.
 www.apcs.asn.au

March Auction

Not the best auction we have ever had. There were ten outside vendors. A number of deceased grandfathers and great uncles who had at some time been dabbling in photography had died leaving a headache for their heirs. Fortunately they learnt of the Society and contacted me before going to the tip. I have four more lined up for the July auction.

In general the standard of this auction was down. Too many flashes, teleconverters, light meters and plastic cameras. From now on such items must be submitted in lots. Prices were generally much lower. I used to be able to 'guesstimate' values fairly accurately but no longer. A

Canon IV RF went for \$220, well below its stated value and the 'star' of the show, The Sanderson, didn't attract a bid. It will go into the July Auction.

When I joined the Society in 1983 tables were full of wood and brass now they are rare and this could be your last chance to secure a camera of this type.

I WILL BE ACCEPTING GOODS FOR THE JULY AUCTION FROM MAY 1 TO MAY 31. PLEASE CONTACT ME TO MAKE ARRANGEMENTS

M Mason - Secretary

(BackFocus #68 has a full pictorial layout)

April Meeting

In a word, fascinating! John Millar gave us some of his knowledge of Mamiya, not a broad general talk but centred around the Mamiya Press. A brief history of Mamiya in the context of



camera development emerged, but the 23 Press, its development, the lenses, the accessories and usage were covered in great detail. John had lenses and the accessories there for us to see how it all worked together. For a 35mm per-

son such as myself, it was a fascinating insight into a larger format system. Full detail (and better pic) in the next Back Focus. **AK**

(Pic quality a bit ordinary... but not bad for a camera in a mobile phone!)

Diary Entries



May 18

Adelaide Market
 Frank 0411 390402

fxslutz@ozemail.com.au

May 25

Brisbane Market
 Sandy (07) 3816 0341
 apbarrie@bigpond.net.au

June 15

Annual General Meeting
 AMRA Hall
 Entertainment assured!

June 29

Sydney Market
 Emmanuel (02) 8284 2148

July 20

Auction at AMRA Hall
 Margaret accepting lots in May
 Bids from Current Members!

July 27

Perth Market
 Bob Halligan (08) 9364 5905

Meetings & Auction

Australian Model Railway
 Association Hall
 92 Wills Street, Glen Iris
 (Melways Ref 59 H7)

Contact Info



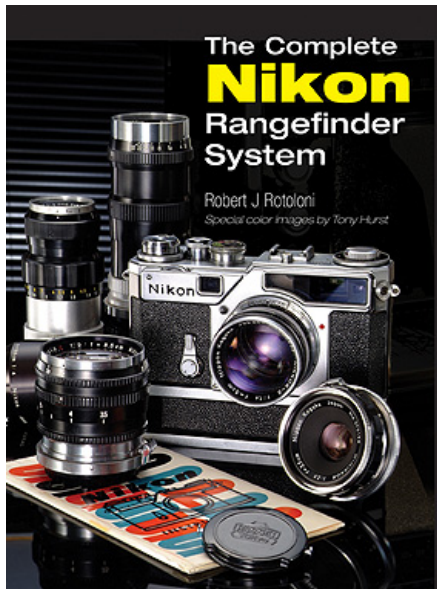
Margaret Mason 03 9836 3719
 secretary@apcs.asn.au
 Alan King 03 5241 2404
 market@apcs.asn.au
 Brian Hatfield 03 9898 2014
 brianhat@ozemail.com.au

New & Returning Members

Welcome!

James Berry, Narre Warren, Vic
 Teresa Chu, Doncaster, Vic
 Chris Eastman, Hampton, Vic
 Kim Thorburn, Pinewood, Vic

THE COMPLETE NIKON RANGEFINDER SYSTEM *By Robert J Rotoloni*



This is must reading for anyone interested in Nikon. Part 1 covers the whole range from the first prototypes to the Nikon S3M half frame and Part 2 covers the entire range of lenses from the 21mm f4 Nikkor-O first produced in June 1959 to the 1000mm f6.3 Nikkor. Part 3 deals with the accessories. Each camera has a comprehensive article with all available information and accompanied by detailed photographs of the camera and lenses plus the accessories for that model.

The book begins with several essays, ranging from the history of the Japanese Optical Industry; the early years of Nippon Kogaku to an historical overview of the production of lenses, filters and caps. Even you are not the fortunate owner of an early Nikon this book makes fascinating reading of an important part of the post war photography industry. It will be available for loan as soon as it has been processed.

MM

No, Not a Gold Luxus!

Most collectors of cameras can look back in time and remember one that got away, the camera that's worth thousands, and you could have picked it up for next to nothing!

Let me tell you about MY one that got away.

Once upon a time in the early eighties, in Frankston, there was a camera shop situated in Central Park (as it was then). It was there in '66, when I first came down from Bendigo to live in the newly proclaimed City of Frankston. It was owned and run by a Dutch gentleman at that early stage. He later sold out and the new owner had another camera shop in Pakenham. The lass who managed the Frankston shop, Julie, was well experienced, having worked for

Peter Fox and Wagners in the City. When my wife was shopping on Saturdays, I would pop in to see Julie and ask "what's new?"

On this particular day, she bent down and pulled out from under the counter, this enormous piece of brass and glass. Yes, a SLR, with a large front rotor, with three large heavy lenses, and a huge pistol grip cast in brass, with inlaid black side panels. All the exposed brass was still quite polished and the whole thing must have weighed between 3-4 kilograms!

I had not seen or heard of this brand since Olympic year, 1956, when I first came to Melbourne from the UK. (There used to be a camera store in the "Block Arcade" in those days, and they had one of these cameras on display, complete with rifle butt/

gun stock. I can't remember the price, but it would have excluded all but the very rich.)

Older cameras being a new interest at that stage, I really did not have any idea of its value. I was then into Nikon gear, and any purchase was as a user, not for display or collection. No way could I see myself carting this huge apparatus around, even at \$60, the asking price.

Some months later I acquired a copy of "McKeown Price Guide 87-88". Low and behold, the SLR could have been worth up to US\$800, (twenty years ago!) Since then these rotor jobs have featured on "Auction Team Koln" The camera – a Rectaflex Rotor c1952, from Italy.

What would it bring now?????

Regards **Member 265**

The Library

We have a very comprehensive library available to members. New books are added regularly. They are there for you to use. You can either collect them from the librarian or they can be posted to you with you

posting them back. Loan is 3 weeks or longer by negotiation. Please do not write in the books as one member once did to the fury of the then librarian. An expanded library list will be made available to members shortly. Call George & June on 95680759 or elmore@alphalink.com.au

Wanted!

- 1/ Pentax SP screw cap cover for the battery compartment. Call John 03 9746 1367
- 2/ More stories about your collecting experience! Call Margaret 03 9836 3719