

the **BROWNIE**

a magazine for Kodak Brownie collectors



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Viewpoint

This issue is the first of the future less frequent numbers to emanate from Brownie Towers. Somewhat later than promised - my apologies, I have waited for a reasonable quantity of articles in order to make a fuller content. Sadly, part of that content relates to the death of Eaton Lothrop. Eaton has been for many years our number one contributor, his scholarship and encyclopaedic knowledge of all things Brownie is our great loss. His last researches into variation within the earliest Brownie Camera, the No.1 Brownie Camera and the No.1 Brownie Camera Model B were sent to me this January and will be published next year.

I am sure that many or all of us cannot resist scanning the remoter darker shelves of charity and junk shops in the hope of finding some rare camera and I was pleased to see a humble Brownie in such a location only last week - the interest was that a relevant page from Remy Steller's website had been printed and was displayed alongside the Hawkeye which had a price of 35 Pounds (26 Euros, 63\$ US). Normally such a camera would fetch two or three pounds on eBay. Some days later it had been sold, and replaced with a non-Brownie Hawkeye, boxed, same price and another of Remy's pages . . . enterprising charity shop staff.

Some, maybe more, of us will be familiar with the *Inspector Morse* television dramas - there is a connection, albeit remote to our favourite camera - the author of the books on which the series was based, one Colin Dexter, when interviewed recently revealed that his first volume "Last bus to Woodstock" has his photograph on the dust jacket, taken ten years ago with an . . . you've guessed it - 'old Brownie box camera'. Interesting to note the omission of 'Kodak', such is the cachet of the Brownie name, rather like driving a Mini, not a Morris Mini Minor

And now a plea for more contributions, perhaps your favourite picture produced either from the photo dealer or your own darkroom, the magazine can only be as full as the material you send in - did anyone produce an image using one of the underwater Brownies we featured in previous articles, or perhaps an aerial photo taken from a hot-air balloon? No? watch this space

A slight twist on the *caveat emptor* adage happened only last week and I wonder to how many collectors is this a common experience - it was at a car-boot sale where, after two hours trundling around the stalls, two of those familiar brown canvas cases were spotted. One contained a Super Six-20 model Brownie Junior, I checked my pocket notes, yes, I do have an example, plus the Portrait version as well, but what surprised me was the size of the letters in the top logo surrounding the lens - very big. I made a mental note to confirm this forgotten nameplate when at home, it was cold and windy so we did not tarry any longer. Back in my den, reference to the collection showed this model to have only small lettering, so this potential buyer missed out - moral: buy it in case you never see another!

ZOMERTENTOONSTELLING
FRANS WALKATE ARCHIEF



Kodak Brownie Box Camera's
Collectie van Remy Steller

12 juni tot en met 14 augustus

Woensdag en Donderdag van 14:00 - 17:00 uur

Kamper Ui(t)dagen van 10:00 - 17:00 uur

Frans Walkate Archief
Burgwal 43
www.walkatearchief.nl



A poster for Remy Steller's June - August 2008 exhibition. Unfortunately, due to editorial inactivity, this poster only appears now. However, all is not lost, if you haven't already, do have a look at Remy's splendid website: www.browniecamera.nl - a wonderful collection of all things Brownie. It is interesting to note that a local charity shop has picked up on the website (editorial - this issue) and is using pages with good effect to sell elderly Kodak cameras.