Book Review sent by Chronometrophilia in Switzerland to its members:

Special Comtoise Clocks and Lantern Clocks

by Chris Hooijkaas

- Our June Bulletin is full. This book is just coming from the press. It is a private edition
- It is different, it is not about history, environment, etc. it concentrates entirely on construction details of the clocks, with over 2200 pictures on 330 pages.

For these reasons, I did not want to wait for the December issue of Chronométrophilia to present it and I take the way of an E-mail to introduce it to you. Just by passion, not by interest, the copy used to make this analysis has been paid from my pocket.

The book is bilingual Dutch-English. As my knowledge of Dutch does not exceed the word Dutch itself, I will comment in English. French or German would be useless.

The book is divided in 5 chapters on Comtoise clocks and 4 on Lantern clocks, + some addenda. 57 Comtoise and 39 Lantern are described and illustrated in details on 2 to 7 pages each. For example, the first clock described is a Comtoise with special proportions, dial with cartouches and dates from about 1750. It is described on 4 pages, ½ page text and 31 pictures of details. Many parts have been dismantle to make the pictures. Most Comtoise clocks are special ones, in a way or another.

The presentation of lantern clocks is in the same spirit but more international. It starts with a large chapter on French Lantern (incl. Brittany, Normandy), but covers also Dutch, English, Italian, Belgian examples.

The author was born in the 50ies. He has a university degree and is a specialist of oil. Over time, he has accumulated about 100 clocks. This is his first book, that he made and publishes himself on own account. The book is A4, hard bound, with 336 pages. It is sold for EUR 49 plus EUR 10 for postage to Switzerland. It can be ordered by email to Chris@Hooijkaas.net and will be shipped promptly as soon as payment has been received. Payment by (SEPA) bank transfer to IBAN account NL89 RABO 0119 0424 79, in the name of Chris Hooijkaas, Narcislaan 4, 2241VR Wassenaar, The Netherlands, mentioning 'book'. BIC number is RABONL2Uxxx.

As a conclusion, this is not a nice decorative book for the living room bookshelf. It is a tool along with your screwdrivers, pliers, etc. in the Workshop. For that reason, I can recommend it warmly for all those who want to understand and ,maybe restore this sort of robust clocks, which almost everybody with some feeling, some skills, a lot of patience end not too many tools can start work on.

Michel Viredaz

Meilleures salutations - Kindest regards - Freundliche Gruesse

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Association suisse des amateurs d'horlogerie

Schweizerische Vereinigung der Uhrenfreunde Swiss Association of Watch and Clock Collectors

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