

# GAYWEST

A way of keeping in touch!

Vol.1. March 2020

## Top stories in this newsletter



It's  
'Photography'  
But not as I  
knew it.



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**The top story line - GayWest is looking for a quick and easy way for you all to keep in touch with all the friends you have made at the Rainbow Café. Some of our members are already missing their Saturday morning chats, If you know of or have the experience of other simple methods, both electronic or otherwise, of keeping in touch, maybe you would like to start it off.**

### Keeping in touch !

**It has always been the policy that GayWest kept all members details strictly confidential, but we are now trying to work under very extraordinary circumstances, and we are getting more and more requests to give our members other members details, we cannot write to each one individually, so we are asking you to inform us if you would be willing to allow us to pass on your Email or Telephone number to other members, should they ask, so that they might contact you directly. When I get this authorization, I will add it to our list.**

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### It's 'Photography' but not as I knew it.

I will describe what it means to me. My mother had a Kodak Box Brownie camera, this was invented about 1900 in the USA. She introduced me to photography when I was 15. The camera had the minimum of controls, just 'instantaneous' and 'Time' and with a simple meniscus lens. It used 120 size roll film, described as 'ordinary', which meant it was sensitive to white and blue light only, so skies were blank white. When all 8 exposures on the film had been taken, one took it to a chemist shop, where it was developed and printed. My mother however, made her own prints from the negatives. She placed the negative and printing paper in a printing frame which had a hinged back. The loaded frame was then exposed to the daylight until a sepia image gradually appeared. Then it was taken indoors and fixed in Hypo.

Films gradually improved, first to 'Orthochromatic' which was sensitive to white and yellow light, then 'Panchromatic' which was sensitive to all colour's, so now clouds became visible. The small 'contact prints' could be mounted in an album. Such cameras and those with bellows were quite bulky.

There were, however 35mm. Cameras available for some time, that used 35mm cinema film, which came in a 'cassette' of 36 exposure. The first such camera was a Leica invented by Leitz. It could have interchangeable focal length lenses and gave superb results, still unsurpassed.

Colour film was now available, giving transparencies. At first slow, Kodachrome with a speed 10 ASA gave excellent colours. Then came Ferraniacolor, which I could develop in a sealed developing tank. This interested me greatly. I mounted each piece of film in a card mount, to be viewed via my projector onto a large screen. It was common to accumulate many such 'slides' and store them in boxes. Decades later was invented the Digital Camera, this has kept alive my fascination with photography giving me complete control over everything. I only use a 'Proper' camera, resisting the Phone Cameras. I am 'old fashioned' but I do not care.

Ernie Everest

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2020 will certainly go into the groups history as a year not to be forgotten. The year that we were all preparing to celebrate the group's 50 years. Well we are, and we will. We will all come out of these difficult times no doubt with a lot of stories so I hope this newsletter will help in some small way to keep us all going. Please let us have your views, topics, jokes even ( Clean of course ) and we will send out to you all. There may be some mistakes in this letter as they are not being proof read, but don't worry you can send us your corrections. Contact us in the normal way.

Colin.



## Toxic air drops in Lockdown Cities

The coronavirus shutdown is leading to improvements in air quality around the world as levels of poisonous gases and particles produced by vehicles and industrial sites have fallen, research shows. Nasa images show levels of nitrogen dioxide ( N<sub>2</sub>O ) dropped dramatically at Wuhan, the Chinese City where the outbreak began.

Levels of fine particles called PM<sub>2.5</sub> have also fallen markedly. Professor Marshall Burke, of Stanford University in California, estimated that the two Month reduction in PM<sub>2.5</sub> pollution could save between 50,000—75,000 lives in China of which between 1,400-4,000 would be children.

But as the outbreak slowed in China, images by the European Space Agency show a resurgence in N<sub>2</sub>O emissions. The ESA has also observed a striking reduction in N<sub>2</sub>O emissions during the lockdown in Italy. The European Environment Agency reports a similar change In Barcelona and Madrid.



**For all those little jobs you wanted done!**