

ANSWERING THE QUESTION IN THE REFLECTION OF THE LAST NOVEMBER ISSUE:
TWENTY-TWO YEARS OF MICSCAPE MAGAZINE
A PERSONAL REFLECTION BY MOL SMITH (THE END OF MICSCAPE MAGAZINE?)

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INTRODUCTION:

Mol Smith co-founder of Micscape reflects in the [article](#) mentioned and in bold on the title above because of the 22nd anniversary of this marvelous magazine if this will stay or pass with the changes that day after day happen on the Internet.

He reflects that the Internet has become so commercial that it has taken away the likes of people for investigating and exploring.

He also states that social media has taken away building of knowledge and has just left what seems to be interest in science just by sharing pictures or videos, but purposeless because nothing is taught.

As he says mobile technology, which people have become addicted to, has rendered the Internet to just a mass of apparent knowledge.

I think all what Mol says is true, but I think that MICSCAPE WILL NEVER DIE. See below.

DEVELOPMENT AND RESULTS:

I say that MICSCAPE WILL NEVER DIE because it is a source of knowledge of microscopy for the enthusiast but also for the professional, personally as I emphasized in my article [MY MICSCAPE EXPERIENCE](#) all what I have learned about microscopy I found in this marvelous magazine.

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Major Overviews and Resources (Close down the new browser window that opens to return here.)

- [Introduction to microscopy](#) - for the beginner, covers major aspects.
- [Microscopy for younger people \(and beginners?\) with access to Pippa's Progress](#)
- [The smallest page on the web!](#) - illustrates some common microscopic aquatic organisms.
- [Pond Life Identification Kit](#) - a simple illustrated guide to some major groups of small and microscopic pond life.
- [Microscopy Primer](#) - an eight chapter illustrated booklet covering both practical and theoretical aspects of the compound microscope. It can be viewed online, or downloadable.
- [The Micropolltan Museum of microscopic art forms](#) - an extensive virtual museum to celebrate the wonderful microorganisms around us. Each room is devoted to a major biological group. **Major extension April 2008 with many new organisms.**

Categories - alphabetical

Click on a link to show all articles in category
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Discoveries New species.	General history, old slides, meetings, people, technology, general science etc.	Insects - lice, fleas, bees, wasps, ants, beetles, butterflies, dragonflies etc.	Marine 'Forams', radiolaria, diatoms, invertebrates, sand.
Microscopes Models/makers - current and historical, portables, optics, queries etc. Microscope resources	Pond life Overviews, virtual pond dip, introduction to major groups, genus/species specific articles	Popular / off-beat Bugs, beasts, thought provoking.	Reviews Books, software.
Spiders and mites Also other arthropods	Techniques - various Projects, Open University microscope mods, collecting and observation tips etc.	Techniques - lighting (recategorised) Darkfield , e-beam , incident polar , oblique and COL , LEDs , Fluorescence / Autofluorescence , DIC etc.	Techniques - microtechnique Slide and specimen preparation, lab. equipment etc.
Techniques - photomicrography using a film camera	Techniques - digital & video imaging Macro and microscopy.	Micscape Lite	

These are free resources offered by voluntary administrators and contributors. However, if any regular user is interested in making a small online contribution to help cover the Microscopy-UK / Micscape web site running costs, please [click here](#) to learn more. Thanks!

Microscopy UK Front Page

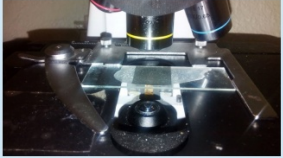
I say that MICSCAPE WILL NEVER DIE because many people are left that like real science around the world, though they are not professional and they come and go through generations.

My case is an example of this, from childhood I had an interest in science and as soon as I had the chance I bought my microscope and started to observe and learn and thanks to MICSCAPE I can share my learning with others.

Google | www.microscopy-uk.org.uk/mag/artmar16/aa-polarized-light.pdf

aa-polarized-light.pdf | 2 / 7

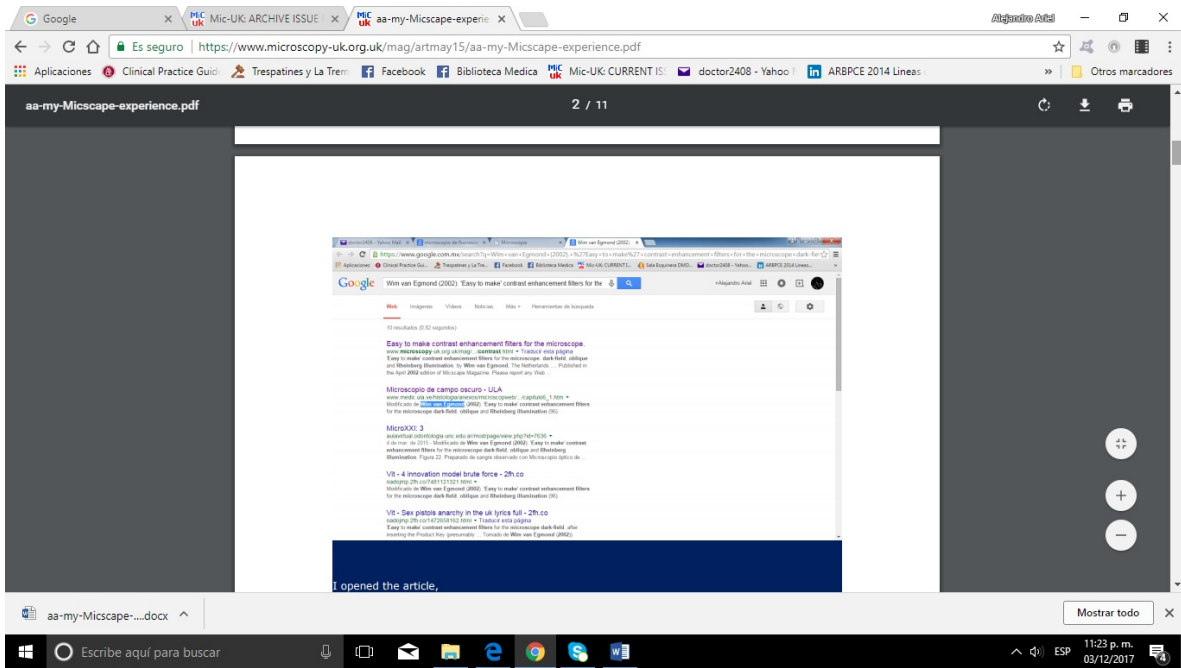
The other method that I used was to place the analyzer filter directly upon the sample and the polarizer for both methods upon the illuminator. Both methods performed very well.



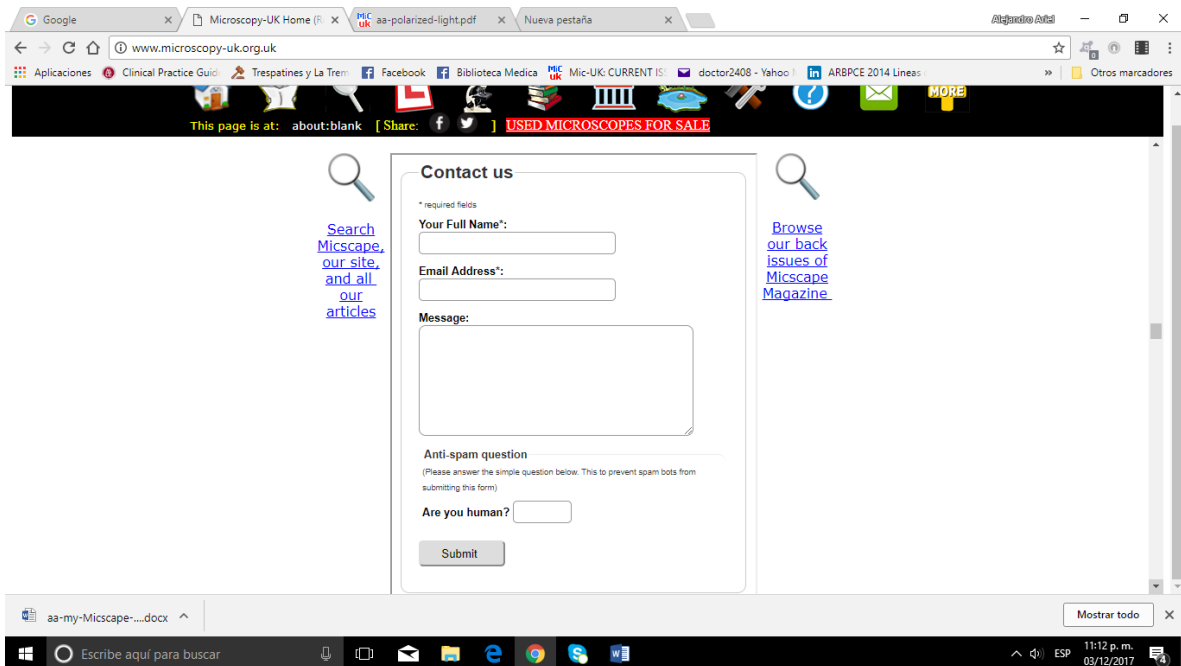
The question arises as to whether all samples can benefit from using polarized illumination, the answer is no. The sample must be birefringent which in simple terms means a sample is made out of a substance capable of splitting light when it is linearly polarized. It is widely known that many crystals are excellent when seen under polarized light and there are tons of examples in *Micscape* magazine - look in the Polar section in the Library. The photo of table salt below shows a non-birefringent chemical, sodium chloride.

Techniques - lighting (recategorised)

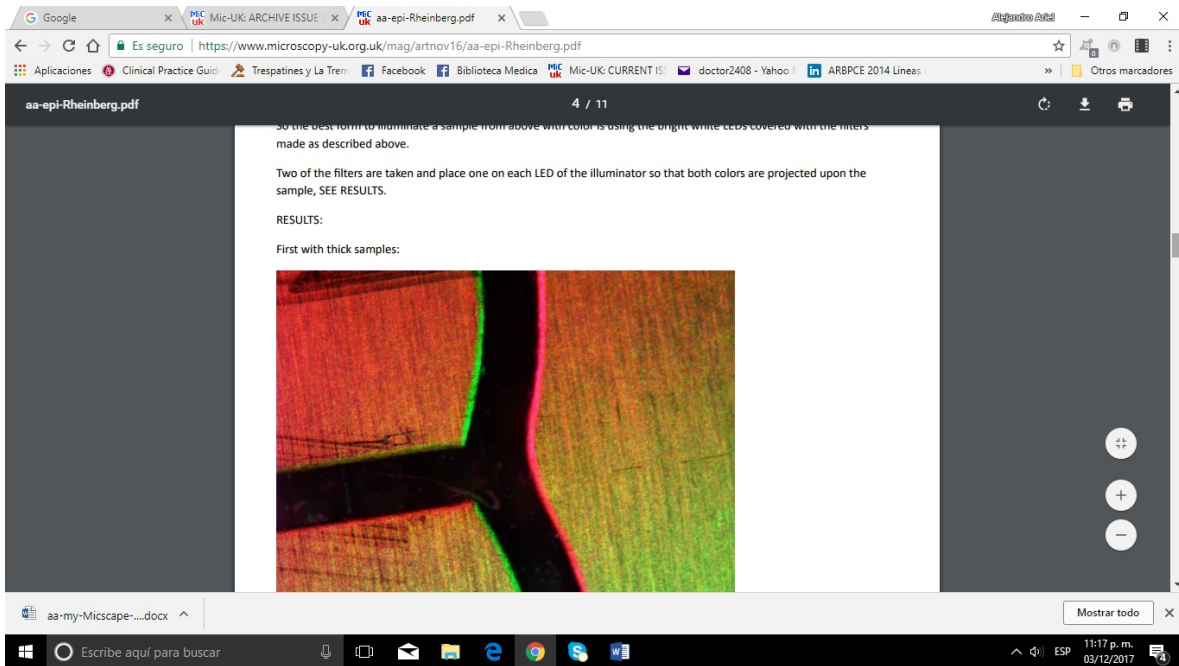
I say that MICSCAPE WILL NEVER DIE because year by year new visitors are going to read an article in MICSCAPE that will take them to the HOME PAGE and that after seeing the amount of knowledge there is there will fill the form to start contact, that is unavoidable.



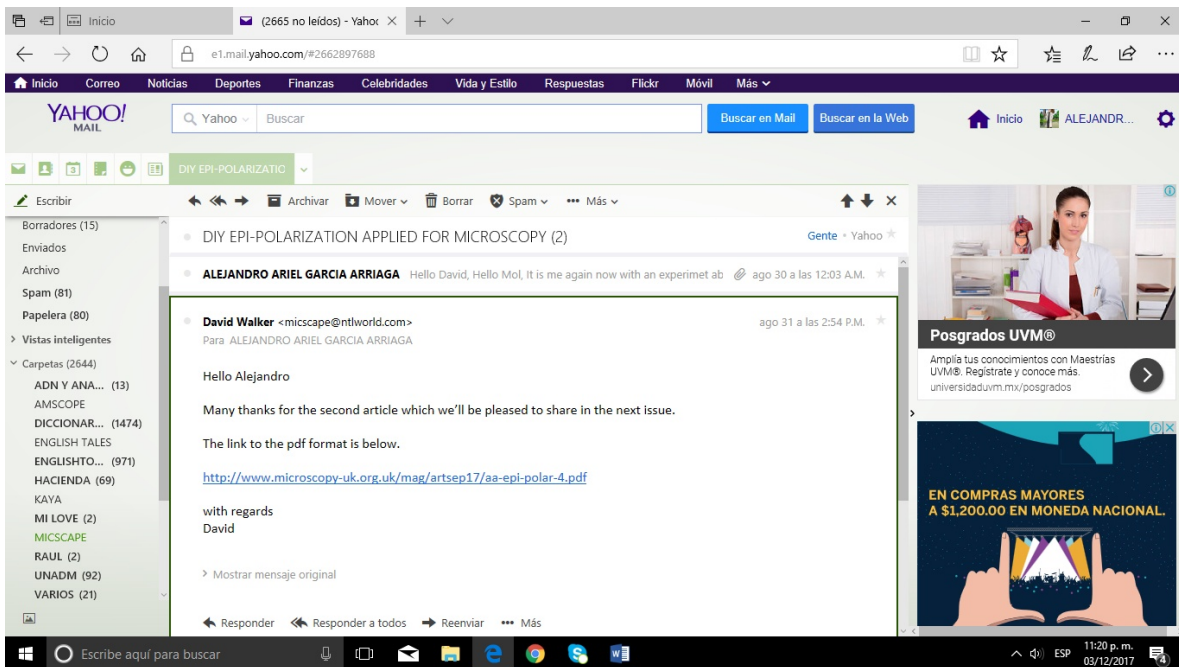
I say that MICSCAPE WILL NEVER DIE because there will always appear people like you [Mol](#) and you [David](#) and like [Pippa](#), [Paul James](#), [Walter Dioni](#), [Wim Van Egmond](#) and many others that have profited so well in MICSCAPE that have become teachers.



I say that MICSCAPE WILL NEVER DIE because it is just [inspiring](#).



I say that MICSCAPE WILL NEVER DIE because through it one's observations are preserved and are not left within computer software, instead they are spread around the world.



I say that MICSCAPE WILL NEVER DIE because it is a bridge to all the countries of the world, while many people think in building walls, MOL SMITH and DAVID WALKER have built a bridge that has reached all continents and that has surpassed frontiers making us through microscopy compatriots and family because there is not any discrimination or racism, since if you write from any part of the world no matter your skin color or your language they always answered you.

Micscape contributor index
Updated October 24th 2017

Learn more about Micscape Magazine [here](#).

This index lists all Micscape contributors, from its first issue in November 1995 to present, in order of surname.

A contributor is somebody who has either written an article, shared an image, or kindly allowed a third party to present their work.

If a contributor's surname is typed into the [Micscape Library Keyword Index](#) a full list of all their contributions with links will be given.

To date there have been 388 contributors from 30 countries. For interest, the country breakdown is below the author index.

First name	Surname	Country
Keith	Abineri	UK
Peter	Abrahams	USA
Brian	Adams (dec.)	UK

CONCLUSION:

Thanks Mol and David for giving to us the enthusiast of this unique hobby a place to show all the potential that everyone of us has inside, and if it is true that most of us do not do science at a professional level, we are doing science anyway.

SO, I AM SURE THAT MICSCAPE WILL NEVER DIE.

Email author: doctor2408 AT yahoo DOT com DOT mx

(Above in anti-spam format. Copy string to email software, remove spaces and manually insert the capitalised characters.)

Published in the November 2017 issue of *Micscape* magazine.

www.micscape.org