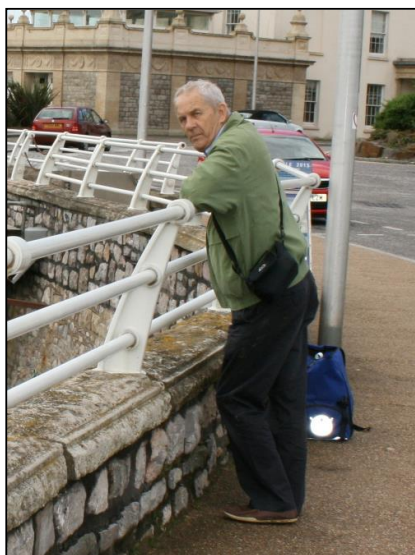


Klaus-Dieter Kemp



Born 10th December 1937 in Spandau Berlin Klaus-Dieter Pohl with the threat of war evacuated to my grandparents in Strigau, Silesia (Polish border) mother remained in Berlin, I was evacuated to my grandparents in Strigau Silesia. Captured by the Russians when escaping from Strigau and placed on farms as POW in Czechoslovakia and worked as unpaid workers to the end of the war. Repatriated to East Berlin (Russian Zone) to a concentration camp I believe it was near Neubrandenburg. Contact was made with mother who had survived but was in the British Zone. Mother ventured in to the Russian Zone to get me out quoting the Geneva convention that mother and child should not be separated, however this was declined as I had serious medical problems due mainly to malnutrition, however she was able to visit us but only by bribing the guards with cigarettes. We were eventually released to live in Falkensee (East zone) Mother met an English Airman (Eric Kemp) and came to England 1947. She managed to arrange that I should cross the border from East to West with a paid guide, this was before the wall was built with only a strip of no mans land to negotiate, but still a serious problem as those who were seen crossing were not taken prisoners but shot. I was fortunate as the group of seven and guide crossed without incident. The British Red Cross now took over and arranged escorts from there to England, first having to fly out from West Berlin (British Zone) in a DC 10. Arrived at 48 Barlow Street Bradford Manchester in 1948 and started School St. Aiden's junior School for the first time in my life. This was not the happiest times with my being unable to speak English and sending me to School in Lederhosen was not one of mother's best ideas. Went from St. Aiden's to Grange Street Senior Boys School. I am forever indebted to the Science master who thought I was very interested in the Sciences and tutored me and five other boys to take up Analytical Chemistry, after a short while he recognised I was never going to make it as a chemist and guided me to Biology, arranging on my leaving School to join Flatters and Garnetts Ltd., (Fallowfield) at the age of 16. Wilfred Garnett in some ways took me under his wing and placed me in the preservation department (as a worker rather than as an exhibit), this turned out to be one of the life changing events as I was now surrounded by all interesting and fascinating animals and plants, which made me find out as much information as I could get. The workforce at Flatters and Garnetts became an extended family to me and these were now to become some of the best times in my life. Within three years two heads of department left and with suggestions from the workforce I was given the position of head of the preservation department. I spent lunch times learning much about the other departments, such as Osteology, Dissection, Entomology and the slide department. It was the latter that interested me most and the Head of Department (Gordon McKechnie) a true old fashioned British gentleman would sit in the lunch hours producing slides of all manner of things, it was inevitable that two slides shaped where I would finish up, One was a Johan Dietrich Moeller arrangement in the form of a star and the other was a John Dalton slide of a Rooster, Hen and Chicks, these raised the question with me, how could the Victorians possibly manipulate such tiny objects into the images? It was at this point that Wilfred Garnett informed me that a large collection of sample tubes from the Reverend Calloway containing Diatoms from the J.A. Long collection were to be conserved by me as the Reverend had developed some eye problems. With boxes of sample tubes of varying sizes sat in front of me I just had to have a dip into one and find out what were diatoms, from that point my life has been focused on all things Diatoms. I was encouraged to try and make some mounts by Wilfred Garnett, he and Gordon McKechnie gave me as much information and help as they could even getting me access to the Manchester University Botany Department run by Dr. Friend, he arranged for me to have a 35mm photo copy of Schmidt's Atlas, which I still use. I would spend every Saturday morning in the Department looking at the Diatom collection and identifying what I had mounted with what was in the cabinets or literature in the library. It was after some eight years trying out the various formulas given by the Victorians that I made my first real type slides, but was frustrated by the number of failures I was getting, I decided to experiment and develop my own adhesive. This has proved successful and there are now very few failures.

The van driver for Flatters and Garnetts was Frank Mountford and suggested that I might wish to come to his house and meet his sister Sheila, after a seven year courtship (saving up to buy a house) we married on 29th June 1963. We moved to Romiley in Cheshire. Deborah Kirsten Jane Kemp was born 11th June 1967. Sadly Flatters and Garnetts went into liquidation and I was now out of work in a discipline that was not generally required in the outside world and for a while I was unemployed. In 1970 a phone call from Eric Leary Chief technician at Salford University asked me if I would be interested in joining them in the Environmental Resources Department in Garside Street Salford as a technician? This was an interesting insight for me as to the methods and techniques in laboratories. In 1976 having seen a job advertised for a Production Manager with Philip Harris Biological I applied and I joined the Company in Oldmixon Westo-Super-Mare. This was as close as I could get to my initial vocation with Flatters and Garnetts Ltd. Due to political correction and changes in the School curriculum there was an inevitable decline in the way Biology would be taught and once again I was made redundant. It is now at the age of 50 that I realised what a narrow street I had been walking and knew that I had to change my career, I had now a small number of clients who would order slides from me, but the fortunate thing was a slide I made as a request from a friend in the U.S.A. who bought an arrangement of Diatoms making up a Christmas tree, photographed it and sent it as a Christmas card to all of his Microscopy friends, this caused many of them asking where did the arrangement come from? Since then I have supplied the major Companies Turtox, Carolina Biological, Zeiss Jena, Olympus with slides, the most popular being the eight form test plate. With the advent of Computers and the Internet I have been able to contact many people throughout the world and very much helped by Steven Gill who has created a web page for me and provided many gems of information. On moving from Manchester to Somerset I accidentally on a trip to Steephelm met up with a lovely couple Betty and Bernard Hartley, we became the very best of friends and were immediately treated as family. Bernard coming from the North of England had a wicked sense of humour and yet a real gentleman,. We spent many hours on the subject of Diatoms and shared our knowledge, collecting from the wild, it was with great sadness I watched his deteriorating eyesight due to his Diabetes. His last wish was that I should have his Diatom collection which also contained the R.I. Firth collection.

Research - Vol. 4 No. 1 pp.p. 39-45 (1989) [Pub. 1989] Kemp, K.-D. / Paddock, T.B.B. - *Diademoides* nom. nov., a new generic name for *Diadema* Kemp & Paddock : Diatom Research - Vol. 5 No. 1 pp.199 (1990) [Pub. 1990] Kemp, K.-D. / Paddock, T.B.B. - An illustrated survey of the morphological features of the diatom genus *Mas* : Diatom Research - Vol. 5 No. 1 pp.73-103 (1990) [Pub. 1990] Diatom Bibliography Kemp, K.-D. / Paddock, T.B.B. - Chambers within the valve of *Diadema*, gen. nov. : Diatom Research - Vol. 4 No. 1 pp.p. 39-45 (1989) [Pub. 1989] Kemp, K.-D. / Paddock, T.B.B. - *Diademoides* nom. nov., a new generic name for *Diadema* Kemp & Paddock : Diatom Research - Vol. 5 No. 1 pp.199 (1990) [Pub. 1990] Kemp, K.-D. / Paddock, T.B.B. - An illustrated survey of the morphological features of the diatom genus *Mas* : Diatom Research - Vol. 5 No. 1 pp.73-103 (1990) [Pub. 1990]