



Smile for the Camera

ALTHOUGH THE BASIC IDEA is still the same – capturing an image for posterity – just about everything else in the world of cameras has changed beyond all recognition. The equipment used by early photographers more than a century ago was large, cumbersome and difficult to operate, unlike today’s lightweight digital cameras which started to enter the market in the early 1990s.

Then... The golden age of handcrafted wood cameras lasted from the birth of photography in 1839 to the early part of the 20th century. They were large, cumbersome and worked by placing a sensitised plate or sheet of paper in front of the viewing screen to record the image. As exposure times were reduced, mechanical shutters were introduced and were in common use by the turn of the century.

Now... Today’s digital technology changes with dizzying speed. One of the latest innovations to hit the market is the Ricoh GXR, the world’s smallest and lightest interchangeable digital camera. It integrates the lens, image sensor and processing engine in a single unit which slots into the camera body, allowing users to change lenses to match the change in scene and mood around them. 

