

August 2011 News

Information not shared is forgotten'

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MEMORIES

Last month saw the addition to the EPEPNET Members Area of 'Hazel Grove Memories 1957-1964'. I also requested more videos or memories and pictures that can be shared. Searching my records I came across my copy of CD 'Mullard House Memories', with page by page copies of in-house newsletter Communiqués from 1975 and later Links until July 1990.

I also found the papers 'Mullard the Master valve - a jigsaw mostly gaps' by Fredrick A Sowan copyright 2000. Are there any more?

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PHILIPS TV- the end of a major activity

If you are a member of PEPA, you will have received Newsletter 231 for August 2011. In it PEPA Vice Chairman Mike Brayne writes:

'In April Philips announced it was 'disentangling its TV business' by extending an existing licensing agreement with Hong Kong based TPV. Effective end of 2011 a new joint venture company will leave Philips with 30% ownership. Philips retains an option to sell its stake to TPV after six years. Philips currently licenses its television portfolio to TPV in China, to Funai in the USA plus part of South America and Videocom in India - these arrangements will not move to the joint venture.

Around 3600 of Philips TV management and staff will transfer into the JV company.

It was 83 years ago in 1928, when Philips showed its first experimental TV publicly, but production did not begin until 1948/1949. During the 1950's and 1960's Philips established factories to design and manufacture televisions for the European market in France, Italy, Belgium and of course the UK with the site in Croydon opening in 1956.

Philips acquired a 60% stake in the Pye radio and TV operation at Lowestoft in 1967 and 100% in 1977.

The Lowestoft site was sold to Sanyo in 1982. Through the 1970's and 1980's most of the major Japanese brands, and one Taiwanese, started television production in the UK. The end of television manufacturing in the UK came when Sanyo closed the Lowestoft site in the spring 2009.' Many thanks Mike for this history.

But what about ECHO? There is a web site at

<http://www.ekcoelectronics.co.uk/>

which survives two earlier web sites, now sadly no longer, Malmesbury

Memories and the EKCO Radar Site. EKCO was taken over by Pye in 1960, both being taken over by Philips in 1967.

Ray Woodcock records earlier changes to UK manufacturing at Philips colour TVs are extolled at <http://www.rockcity.adsl24.co.uk/philips/index.html>

and there is the first of 4 parts of Philips Blackburn TEO film at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HveUY7eivfl>

this first part records the string of feeder factories opened in the highdays of TV and valve production. The film goes on to show valve manufacturing processes. A comprehensive record of Mullard valves and Captain S R Mullard is at <http://www.r-type.org/static/makemull.htm>

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The MULLARD ROSE

Last month I mentioned the long lost film of Mullard History which Aubrey Dunford was making available as a DVD. The following article by Aubrey has also appeared in the PEPA Newsletter: Do you remember the Mullard Jubilee Rose? ([Click here](#))

We received our Mullard Rose while serving at Southampton, so it was planted there in our Glen Eyre garden.

We then moved to Woking in 1975 and the rose came too when I transferred back again to Mullard House. In 2003 wife June visited Seale Nurseries on the Hogs Back near Guildford with our local horticultural group and saw how roses were budded and grafted onto new stock. We thought our glorious Mullard Rose should be given this treatment. In 2004 June cut a long stem with plenty of buds and delivered it on 11 June to Seale Nurseries together with a payment of £20, but no promises of success.

We kept in touch with the Nurseries by phone to check progress until on 2nd July 2007 we collected 5 roses on a payment of £8 each. Each new rose was planted but the original was potted and is given special feeds. One of the newer roses has been passed to Len Battyll for his Haselmere Garden



June is a very keen gardener and has taken many cuttings - to share - from the original Ralph Brewer's vine at Romsey. At the end of last season our vine was given a 'short back and sides' with the result that this year it looks to produce it biggest crop of grapes.



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Is it NEWS?

This August has seen dramatic events unfold. First the Euro and the mounting debt of certain member countries. This has been closely followed by the down rating of US credit. And much closer to home, the riots looting and torching of building in many of our major cities. We all hope that none of our members are affected. Also that our Pension Fund, which had as last reported gained fully funded status, will not be badly effected.

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