

July 2011 News

'Information not shared is forgotten'

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Vintage Wireless and TV museum visit

This visit was organised by Richard Stow, PEPA Membership Secretary, on 10 May. The museum is in West Dulwich and we each had to find our own way there. Some 14 pensioners divided themselves into the morning and afternoon visits to see this private collection put together by Gerald Wells in the house in which he has lived for most of his life. Every room including Gerald's bedroom is crammed with wireless sets from the early days of crystals, through the valve period - which Gerald favours - right up to portable valve and also transistor sets. TVs are included and even 405 line set are operational using Gerald's own converter. The museum extends into the garden where Gerald built a number of interconnected sheds which house a workshop equipped with all the tools and machines required to build wireless sets and TVs, backed by a vast library of datasheets including those for GEC and Mullard semiconductors as well as valves.

Some idea of the scope of the collection can be obtained from the pictures taken on the visit. (**LINK**) His life is recorded in his book 'Obsession' available from the museum.

All visits are by appointment.

Further information and more pictures are at <http://www.bvwtm.org.uk/> and [Wireless and Television Museum Visit](#). In Your Pictures ([back to the top](#))

PHILIPS PENSION COMMITTEE

As is customary, the PPC annual meeting is held on the same day as the PEPA agm, this year at Denbie's Vineyard Dorking on 21 June. Aubrey Dunford gave a very clear explanation about the Pension Offer some of us have received. One criticism raised at the meeting regarding the notification by Philips to pensioners was that only those who qualified under the terms of the offer received letters. Many at the meeting said they had not yet had a letter, when could it be expected? All of the letter should have been received by early June. It was agreed that it would have been much better if those who did not qualify had also been advised. Some explanations are available at - <http://www.pensions.philips.co.uk/news/?item=356>

If you are in doubt whether you should have received an offer, it is suggested you phone the IFA appointed by and paid for by Philips with your pension number etc to ask if you are on their list of those who

have been sent an offer 0800 804 8136 (+44 207 017 0136 +44 207 017 0136 from abroad). It was reiterated that only the Philips funded IFS or your own IFS can advise you on this offer. Aubrey added that Philips had several pension funds it supported world-wide, the EHV one being some 4x bigger than ours. No pensioner will be worse off if they 'do nothing' about the offer.

Aubrey also reported on their meeting last week with the Trustees. You will recall that Philips had transferred their NXP 42,7m shares valued at £290m last September to our fund. Since then the share value has doubled and some have been sold. Further sales will be made within the agreed rules for disposal. Other asset movements have resulted in the fund becoming FULLY FUNDED at £2,927m on 31 March. Further, the fund is now CLOSED by virtue that the three hundred odd contributing members have been offered other arrangements, leaving only 15132 Deferred and 19635 In Payment pensioners as members. E&OE

n.b Our pension fund is administered by AON, see

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aon_Corporation

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MULLARD HISTORY

A film was made in 1970 to mark the 50th anniversary of the Mullard company.

The producer was Charles Marshall who at the time was the PR Manager. Sadly Charles passed away, but a film was found in his attic by his wife and passed to Brian Whale. Brian contacted Aubrey Dunford and the film has been converted to DVD. It is planned to make the DVD available for a small donation to the Philips Electronics Pensioners Benevolent Association.

Note: You may also recall 'Mitcham Remembered' commissioned I beleive by John Pawling. Philips Service made a video 'Movies, and various videos were collected together covering 'Sitrophil' 'Tradanet' 'Telecom Gold' and 'Vanguard' in the 1980s.

Are there any others that should be 'shared'?

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PEPA

Please visit

If you are not already a member of PEPA and live south of Birmingham, why not join?

See <http://pepa-online.org.uk/joining.html>

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