



The Institution of Engineering and Technology presents

South Wales Electronics & Communications Technical Network

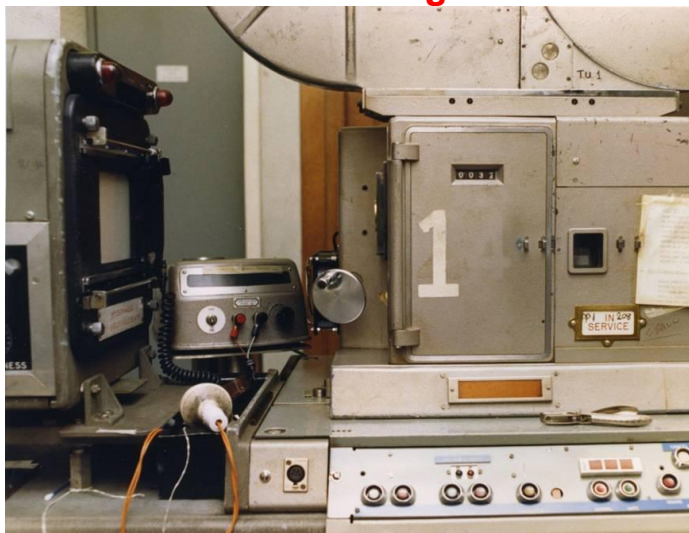
joint Lecture with the British Computer Society.



“Colour Alchemy – Transmutation of B&W film recordings into Colour Assets”

By James Insell, Preservation Specialist for BBC Archive

Photo is of a Marconi 16mm Quick-Pull-Down film recording channel



In the Sixties and Seventies the BBC would sometimes wipe and re-use the master tapes once the programme had been aired.

Film copies of the master tapes were often made of programmes prior to being wiped out, but the recording were only made in black and white. Thanks to development of new Colour Recovery technology, the preservation team within BBC have been able to bring a new lease of life to specific archive content.

Colour recovery relies on the particular manner in which these film recordings were made, and hails from the Colour Recovery Working Group an independent group which has been working on the development of the technology – the idea for which was conceived over a decade

Specially written software is applied to a high-definition scan of the film. The software analyses a fine pattern of dots embedded in the film, which is an artefact of the original PAL colour-subcarrier. Sufficient information is recovered from these 'chroma dots' in order for PAL decoding to take place and for the original colours to be determined.

It would be helpful if you could register your intentions to attend this Event; however, you may register for this FREE lecture on the night. Please contact: John M Jones, Hon. Secretary, IET Wales South West Network. Please contact: [john M Jones Hon. Secretary, IET Wales South West Network](mailto:john.m.jones@theiet.org). Tel: 01639822171 or E-mail: jmjoness@theiet.org

Thursday 18 March 2010, 18:00 for 19:00
Light refreshments before and after lecture
Faraday Lecture Theatre, Swansea University,
Singleton Park, Swansea, SA2 8PP