

# Panasonic Trust



ROYAL  
ACADEMY  
of  
ENGINEERING

Welcome to a very special edition of the Panasonic Trust News. This year the Trust celebrates its 20th anniversary. I doubt very few people realised on 2 November 1984 when HRH the Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh accepted the original deeds to the Trust, what it would achieve, the diversity of activities it undertakes or the continuing importance of the work it does 20 years on. Indeed there were some who saw the Trust as a short-term venture. However through careful investment and the deft judgement of the Trustees, the Panasonic Trust has gone from strength to strength and is extremely proud of its track record of supporting UK engineers with their professional development and its impact on the UK industrial sector as a whole.

The work done by the Trust officials is of course only half the story. Without the support of our colleagues in academia and industry, the Trust could not fulfil its objectives. We therefore thank everyone who has contributed or been involved in our activities over the last 20 years.

To celebrate our anniversary, a number of new initiatives will be announced throughout the year. This will include a new scheme and a major addition to the prestigious Panasonic Trust Fellowships. Full details will be available from our webpage so don't forget to bookmark it now.

***Here's to the next 20 years!***



# THAT WAS THE YEAR THAT WAS!

**So what has happened over the last 20 years? Here we take a look back at key milestones for the Trust with some reminders of other events that were happening at the same time.**



**1984** HRH Prince Philip The Duke of Edinburgh receives the deeds to a £500,000 trust fund at the event to celebrate 10 years of successful manufacturing in the UK by Matsushita UK Ltd. The fund becomes constituted as 'The Panasonic Trust'.

- ▶ Daley Thompson, Seb Coe and Tessa Sanderson win golds at the Los Angeles Olympics
- ▶ The Miners strike over pit closures
- ▶ The £1 note leaves circulation

**1985** The Trust supports its first student, Andrew Kitley, to study a short course in Electronics Systems Design at the then Cranfield Institute of Technology. In total 12 engineers are supported by the Trust in its first year of operation.

- ▶ Mikhail Gorbachev becomes Soviet leader
- ▶ CD-ROMs make their first appearance in the UK
- ▶ A certain soap based in the East End of London airs its first episode

**1986** Interest in the Panasonic Trust rises sharply as it supports 68 engineers to study modules on the Open University Scientific and Technology Updating Programme.

- ▶ The world's worst nuclear disaster occurs in Northern Ukraine in the little known town of Chernobyl.
- ▶ Prince Andrew marries Sarah Ferguson
- ▶ Diego Maradona with the 'hand of god' scores a goal which knocks England out of the World Cup in Mexico

**1987** Part-time Masters courses make their first appearance amongst the Trust's list of awardees' courses of study. The manufacturing courses at Kingston and Hatfield Polytechnics are the most popular.

- ▶ A fire at London's Kings Cross Underground Station kills 27 people
- ▶ Van Gogh's 'Sunflowers' sells at Christie's Auction House for £24m
- ▶ Michael Fish reassures the public during an evening weather forecast that there is no risk of a hurricane hitting the country. Later that night across the South of England.....

**1989** At the five-year mark, the Trust has supported 256 engineers with a total of £103,000.

- ▶ The Berlin Wall falls ending 28 years of division between East and West
- ▶ Satellite television network Sky is launched
- ▶ The Chinese Army turn on students protesting in Tiananmen Square

**1990** The Trust supports 77 engineers during the year, a number that has not been surpassed since.

- ▶ Nelson Mandela is freed after 27 years in prison
- ▶ French and English tunnellers meet in the middle of the Channel Tunnel excavations
- ▶ Anti Poll Tax demonstrations end in rioting in Trafalgar Square

**1992** The Trust supports its first tranche of engineers on a part-time modular Masters' course by awarding £40,000 to eight engineers to study the course in Project Engineering at Lancaster University.

- ▶ Bungee jumping becomes the 'in thing'
- ▶ Bill Clinton becomes US President
- ▶ The Church of England begins to ordain woman priests

**1993** The success of the pilot programme at Lancaster University is instrumental in the Trust changing its sponsorship policy. From now on funds are directed at those wishing to study for part-time modular Masters' courses at UK higher education institutions.

- ▶ The EEC becomes the EU as the Maastricht Treaty comes into effect
- ▶ US Scientists successfully clone human embryos for the first time
- ▶ American John Bobbit achieves world notoriety after his wife performs a little home surgery

**1994** The Trust reaches its 10th anniversary and publishes 'The Panasonic Trust – The First Ten Years' in celebration. The total number of awardees reaches 475.

- ▶ Nelson Mandela becomes the first black leader of South Africa
- ▶ The National Lottery is launched
- ▶ Sunday trading in the UK is legalised

**1995** Carol Miers, a design engineer working for the BBC and studying part-time at South Bank University, becomes the Trust's 500th awardee. The Trust launches the Sir Henry Royce Bursary Scheme with financial support from the Sir Henry Royce Memorial Foundation, to support the study of automotive and aerospace engineering.

- ▶ Windows 95 is launched by Microsoft
- ▶ Half a pickled cow wins Damien Hirst the Turner Prize
- ▶ Barings Bank collapses

**1997** The Trust fund is boosted during the year when a further donation of £500,000 is made by Panasonic UK Ltd and its Japanese parent company Matsushita Electric Industrial Company Ltd. The presentation is made in October at a banquet to celebrate the 25th anniversary of Panasonic UK Ltd. Panasonic Trust News is published for the first time.

- ▶ Diana, Princess of Wales, dies in a car accident in Paris
- ▶ Dolly the Sheep, the first cloned mammal, is born
- ▶ The phrase 'Road Rage' is coined for the first time

**1998** The Panasonic Trust Fellowships are launched to support the full-time study of Masters' courses related to the environment and sustainable development.

- ▶ Viagra is launched
- ▶ Posh and Becks become an item much to the delight of their families and the tabloid press.
- ▶ 18 year old Michael Owen becomes the youngest footballer to play for England

**1999** The Sir Angus Paton Bursary, up till now a stand alone award of The Royal Academy of Engineering, is awarded by the Panasonic Trust for the first time, thus adding water engineering to its growing portfolio of engineering disciplines.

- ▶ There is a total eclipse of the sun over Britain
- ▶ The minimum wage is introduced
- ▶ The Millennium Wheel becomes London's newest landmark

**2000** The new millennium starts off well for the Trust with another first as all 65 engineers supported by the Panasonic Trust Awards scheme are financially co-sponsored by their employers.

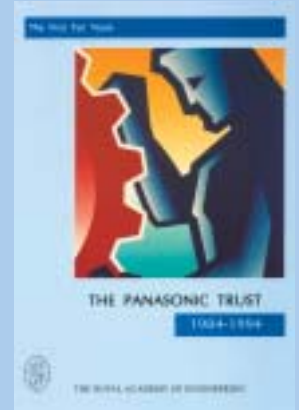
- ▶ The Human Rights Act comes into force
- ▶ Steve Redgrave sets a world record by winning a fifth consecutive endurance gold medal in consecutive Olympic Games
- ▶ The Queen Mother celebrates her 100th birthday

**2001** Women engineers reign supreme by scooping four of the five Panasonic Trust Fellowships awarded during the year.

- ▶ Foot and Mouth disease hits the UK
- ▶ Ellen MacArthur becomes the youngest person to sail around the world
- ▶ On September 11 two passenger planes hit the World Trade Centre in New York

**2003** David Graham becomes the 1000th engineer to be awarded a grant through the Panasonic Trust Awards scheme.

- ▶ The Space Shuttle Columbia breaks up on its return journey
- ▶ Concorde is taken out of service
- ▶ England became Rugby World champions



# TRUST CELEBRATES SUPPORTING ITS 1000<sup>TH</sup> ENGINEER



*Cyril Wood, Managing Director of Panasonic UK Ltd, congratulates both awardees and the Trust on achieving the milestone of supporting 1000 engineers.*

**In June 2003 the Trust celebrated supporting its 1000th engineer to study a part-time course through its Panasonic Trust awards scheme. The engineer to achieve this unique honour was 32-year old David Graham, who works for Timsons Ltd in Kettering. David is currently developing his career as manufacturing engineer by studying the Masters' course in Advanced Manufacturing Systems at Brunel University.**

Many of those who had made significant contributions to the work of the Trust over the years were present in the audience to see Mr Cyril Wood, the Managing Director of Panasonic UK Ltd, present David with a Panasonic Trust bronze medal and cheque for £500. Also honoured on this occasion was 2001 Panasonic Fellow Darren Furse, who was presented with his Fellowship certificate. Darren recently completed the MSc course in IT for Product Realisation at Cranfield University.



*David Graham receives his Panasonic Trust medal from Cyril Wood*



*Darren Furse is presented with his Fellowship certificate by Cyril Wood with Robin Bond FREng, Chairman of Trustees (right).*



*VIP guests included Philip Hall and Frank Shaw (right) of the Sir Henry Royce Memorial Foundation.'*



*Robin Bond FREng, Chairman of Trustees, responds, thanking everyone present for their support of and work with the Trust*



*Trustee Terry Lazenby FREng with Graeme Brock (centre) and Jim Morris (right) of Gerrard Ltd.'*



*Robin Bond FREng with two of his predecessors: Dr Cecil French FREng (Chairman 1988-1991) (centre) and Mr Jack Evans OBE JP FREng (Chairman 1991-1995) (right).*

# CONGRATULATIONS

**To the following Trust awardees who have recently completed part-time courses and successfully graduated:**

Timothy Dew	MSc in Advanced Manufacturing Systems from Brunel University	Thomas Mikkelsen	International & European Welding Technologist Diploma from The Welding Institute
Geoffrey Douthwaite	MSc in Aerospace Design, Management & Manufacturing from the University of Bristol	Gary Morris	MSc in Advanced Microelectronics for Industrialists from the University of Northumbria & Bolton Institute
Christopher Draper	MSc in Aerospace Design, Management & Manufacturing from the University of Bristol	Nilay Shah	MSc in Geotechnical Engineering Design & Management from Nottingham Trent University
George Forrest	MSc in Process Technology & Management from the University of Strathclyde	Ross Spiers	MSc in Transportation Engineering from Napier University
David Henley	MSc in Engineering Design Management from Loughborough University	David Watson	MSc in Computer Aided Engineering Design from the University of Strathclyde
Andrew Hill	MSc in Radio Frequency Communications from the University of Hull	Anthony Williamson	MSc in Automotive Design from Coventry University

## THE PANASONIC TRUST FELLOWSHIPS

**These prestigious awards are currently tenable on the following full-time Masters' courses:**

Multimedia Technology at the University of Bath	Renewable Energy & the Environment at the University of Reading
Manufacturing Systems Engineering at the University of Bradford	Engineering for Development at the University of Southampton
Cranfield Manufacturing Masters' Courses at Cranfield University	Energy Systems & the Environment at the University of Strathclyde
Environmental Sustainability at the University of Edinburgh	Water & Environmental Engineering at the University of Surrey
Geotechnical Engineering at Heriot-Watt University	Corrosion Science & Engineering at UMIST
Environmental Diagnosis at Imperial College	Facilities Management at UWE Bristol
Renewable Energy Systems Technology at Loughborough University	Virtual Manufacturing in Construction & Engineering at the University of Wolverhampton
Water & Environmental Management at the University of Newcastle upon Tyne	

## DO YOU RUN A TECHNOLOGY UPDATING COURSE?

The Panasonic Trust is always keen to expand the number of courses it supports through its Panasonic Trust Awards scheme. Suitable courses are part-time and should cover any aspect of new technology. Applicants need not be graduates but should have a recognised qualification in engineering or a closely allied subject.

**Contact us now for further information on funding opportunities.**

## APPLICATION INFORMATION

**All enquiries about the Panasonic Trust and its activities should be made to:**

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