

## Notes on the founding and development of the UK & Ireland Chapter of SID

John Mansell

The possibility of setting up a European chapter of SID was first discussed during EuroDisplay 84, which was held in Paris. This led to a small group of UK SID members forming a temporary committee which successfully set up a new UK chapter. It was realised that displays were becoming increasingly important and a professional body could have a significant influence on the developments in displays in the UK. Success depended on attracting as many members as possible.



*Chapter Inauguration 5<sup>th</sup> June 1985*

*Alfred Woodhead, Cees Gerritsma, Bill Crossland, Harry Ellis, Ifay Chang, Derek Washington, Mino Green, Aaren Vecht, Barbara Needham and Cyril Hilsum*

A number of companies were approached for help and a positive response was received from IBM, GEC, Philips, Phosphor Products, Racal, RSRE, Sinclair and Thorn-EMI Brimar.

In a letter to the chapter secretary, the President of SID, Ifay Chang said, 'I am so glad that the UK & Ireland Chapter has gotten off the ground and has progressed beautifully. Let me congratulate all of you on as fine start. I am looking forward to meeting you some day in your Chapter'.

The temporary committee was chaired by Professor Mino Green, Imperial College. Other members included Dr Barbara Needham,

STL as membership secretary, Derek Washington of Philips Research Laboratories as secretary, Alfred Woodhead as chapter European representative and Harry Ellis as newsletter editor. Laurie Allard, Simon Bliss, Steven Elmer and David Marshall were ordinary committee members. They prepared a set of bye-laws and arranged for the first two technical meetings and AGM to be held on 1<sup>st</sup> September 1985.



*Ifay Chang, SID President  
Addressing the Inaugural  
Meeting*

Alfred Woodhead attended the European Steering Committee meetings which discussed the development of SID activities in Europe. It was recognised that Europe had been poor at creating opportunities for the display business. It was felt that SID had an important role to play in stimulating the European display community to make the most of opportunities in the market. The UK was the first European country to set up a chapter and it was hoped that others would soon follow suit, particularly France and Germany. It was recognised that the display activity in some countries was too small to enable a separate chapter to be set up.

A message from the SID President appeared in the Information Display, reporting that at the SID Board meeting on 7 January 1985, the formation of the UK&I Chapter had been approved. He congratulated the UK members for the hard work in setting up the chapter and in particular Alfred Woodhead, who had taken up the chapter formation from start to finish. He also congratulated Dr Andy Lakatos, who had co-ordinated the formation process. He confirmed the appointment of Dr Tuomo Suntola, who was appointed European Regional Director

The inaugural meeting of the chapter was held on 5<sup>th</sup> June 1985 at Mullard House in Torrington Place (now part of University College). The president Ifay Chang flew in for the meeting, which was oversubscribed. The first part of the meeting was chaired by Professor Mino Green where Professor Cyril Hilsum gave an invited address on the current state of displays in the UK. This was followed by a report on the SID Conference in Orlando.

At the AGM in September 1985, held at STL, Harlow, the committee were confirmed and the bye-laws approved. The meeting was attended by both UK members and non members as well as by a number of European members, bringing the total attendance to 99. The AGM was followed by a technical meeting at which papers were presented on activities at STL, bistable electro-optic effects, ferro-electric LC materials and a review of active-matrix addressing.



*AGM September 1985*

*Mino Green  
Chair*

*Neil Bartlett  
Vice Chair*

*Barbara Needham  
Treasurer*

*Derek Washington  
Secretary*

At the September meeting, a survey was launched to find out what members wanted to hear about at future chapter meetings. At that period of display development, the most popular subject was LCDs. Shortly after that, the idea of local sponsorship by companies was suggested (in contrast to the international, sustaining membership). In July 1986, the chapter newsletter announced that Mullard Ltd, Philips Research Laboratories, Plessey Displays Ltd, STL Ltd and Thorn EMI Central Research Laboratories had become local sponsors. At that time, records showed that chapter membership stood at 145. By December 1988, the number of local sponsors had grown to 19.

At the end of the first year of the chapter, it was reported that its existence had been met with success beyond the dreams of its founders. There had been five technical meetings and the quality of the presentations had been very high and attendance good with most oversubscribed. Subjects included, LCDs, applications, large-area displays and an evening devoted to venture capital.



*Neil Bartlett, Plessey  
Military Displays & AGM  
19 September 1986*

This success was recognised by the Department of Trade and Industry, who had asked the chapter to be the instrument for a technology fact-finding mission to Japan. Unfortunately, this had to be declined, because it would have upset the VAT exempt status of the chapter. The chapter's finances were in good shape. This was partly due to the generosity of companies providing their facilities free of charge for the technical meetings and also the income from local sponsors. At about this time, facilities were set up for members to pay their annual subscriptions locally in Sterling.

In autumn 1986, a team from Philips Research Laboratories, including committee members Derek Washington and Alfred Woodhead and chapter members Daphne Lamport and Dr John Mansell won the IEE Premium Award for four papers on the thin cathode ray tube. Alfred



*Mike Clarke, Displays for the computer industry, IBM Horsley, 25 February 1987*

Woodhead received an award from SID for his contribution to the chapter. Professor Cyril Hilsum was awarded the 1987 Max Born medal and prize for his contributions to the fields of semiconductor compounds, infrared, microwave devices and flat-panel displays.

EuroDisplay 87 was held at the IEE in London in September 1987. This was the first to be held in London, the two previous ones being held in Germany and France. The conference was attended by 350 delegates, 80% of whom came from 12 European countries including East Germany, Poland and Hungary. The UK headed the list of presentations with Japan second and the USA fourth. The conference dinner was held at the nearby Savoy Hotel. The prize for the best presentation at EuroDisplay 87 was won by Dr M J Powell and his co-workers at Philips Research Laboratories for a paper on a colour flat-panel liquid-crystal display using matrix addressing a-Si TFTs.

In his newsletter report, the chapter director, Alfred Woodhead stated that the chapter were not as involved in 'EuroDisplay 87' as much as they would have liked. He felt that the well-established administrative organisation and the contacts the chapter had

established all over Europe, would be invaluable in preparing for another conference. In the December 1988 Chapter Newsletter, members were asked to consider what could be done to improve and maintain the health of the European display industry. Will the Japanese gain total domination? What was needed was better dialogue between workers in the field, spreading the word about activities in the display field and supporting activities by joining SID.



*Tony Lowe, Displays for the computer industry, IBM Horsley, 25 February 1987*

In 1988, the committee set up the award for the best paper presented at a chapter technical meeting in that year. In the event, they were unable to decide and the prize was awarded jointly to K G Freeman and Dr A G Knapp of Philips Research Laboratories and R Hamblin of the Austin Rover group. Other awards received by members during the year were the IEE Faraday Medal awarded to Professor Cyril Hilsum for his outstanding contribution to applied physics and the IoP Paterson Prize awarded to Dr Martin Powell of Philips Research Laboratories for his outstanding work on the physics of amorphous silicon and its applications. During 1988, meetings were held on Hard Copy, Future Television Displays, High Information Displays and LCDs for Television.

In October 1989, the DTI and the chapter co-sponsored a tour of Japan to carry out a detailed study of the current state of the art of flat-panel display development. The mission was funded by the Overseas Technical Information Unit of the DTI. Membership of the team was selected so as to cover interests in research, development and applications. The outcome of the visit was reported at a well-attended seminar at Grosvenor House and

subsequently in a written report. Other activities included a visit to Heathrow, where members were taken 'airside' and learned about the move from large centralised displays to smaller CRT and LCD displays distributed throughout the area. One discovery was the problem, still experienced today, of the positioning of displays by architects where they are washed out by sunlight. In July, in recognition of the increase in the number of users of displays compared with those in research and development, a summer school was held at the University of Bath. The programme covered the then two key technologies of LCDs and CRTs, including basic performance, measurements and specifications. The meeting attracted 30 delegates.



During 1989, there was an exchange of views with SID regarding the future development of SID. There were suggestions that the annual symposium should take place twice a year on both east and west coasts. Views were put forward from the chapter that the international aspect of SID should be developed further. This should include advertising chapter events in Information Display to attract delegates from other countries. In February, at a symposium of avionics displays at GEC Avionics, some 70 delegates were treated to talks on a wide variety of themes on displays in the aircraft environment. In September 1989, a symposium on European Display activity was held at the University of York. This attracted speakers from throughout Europe. EuroDisplay '90 was held at the RAI International Congress Centre in Amsterdam also in September. In December, a request was received from the University Central Library in Romania for replacing books and technical journals destroyed in the democratic revolution.

In 1990, the possibility of chapter members paying their annual subscription in the UK in Sterling was introduced. During the year, a second questionnaire was sent out (the first took place shortly after the chapter inauguration). Over 100 replies were received which gave a very positive response to the chapter activities. There was a plea for lecture notes to be issued at meetings, but this was rejected owing to the cost and time involved in preparing a printing them. Good support was already being given by companies in providing printing of the newsletter etc.



*Tony Lowe presenting Mino Green & Neil Bartlett with a Special Recognition Award Philips Research Laboratories, March 1991*

The year 1991 was a good one for meetings. Topics covered were, Marketing of Displays in January, Communicating with displays in February and Advanced TV with the AGM in March. This last meeting covered the increasing developments of HDTV. At this March meeting, held at Philips Research Laboratories, Tony Lowe presented Mino Green and Neil Bartlett with a Special Recognition Award for their outstanding contribution to the Chapter. Later in the year, there was a meeting on Quality of Displays. There was also another residential meeting on Liquid Crystal Displays at the University of Keele, but with falling attendance, it was decided to discontinue them. Also during 1991, the idea

of Local Representatives in the larger organisation was put forward. The local representatives would publicise meetings, help to obtain speakers and provide a link between the committee and the members. As a result, some 25 members agreed to become local representatives.

In the autumn of 1991, a major reorganisation of SID was proposed, together with a revision of the society's byelaws to reflect the new organisation. With the growing international nature of SID, it was decided to organise the society into three regions, Americas, Asia and Europe. Each region would have its own Vice President whose responsibilities would be to promote the interests and activities of SID within the region and work towards the formation of new chapters. The Regional Vice Presidents would be elected annually by the membership of that region. The maximum term of office for an individual would be two years.

The SID board would also be restructured. With the growth of SID, the office of President had become increasingly demanding. A great deal of experience and knowledge of the workings of SID were required and yet a term of office of two years had become the norm. This had become regarded as too long as many possible candidates for president were unable to commit themselves for two years. The problem would be solved by restricting the term of office of president to one year. The office of Vice President would be abolished and replaced by President elect who would automatically succeed the president. This would allow sharing of responsibilities and enable the President elect to prepare for office as President.

In the future, the Executive Committee would consist of the President, President elect, the Vice Presidents of the three regions, Secretary and Treasurer. The voting members of the board would

remain the same, i.e. the Executive Committee, Chapter Directors and the Past President. The Chapter and Committee Chairs would remain non-voting members of the Board.

At the end of 1991, the chapter, in conjunction with the British Liquid Crystal Society, set up the Ben Sturgeon Award for work related to displays carried out by a young person in the UK. The award was named in memory of Dr Ben Sturgeon who died in September 1990 aged 64. In about 1970, BDH was invited to join with Hull University to undertake work on liquid-crystal materials. Under his leadership, BDH became the world's largest producer of liquid-crystal materials. This work was recognised by a Queen's Award for Technological Advancement made to BDH, Hull University and RSRE Malvern in 1979. A second award was made to BDH, under its new name Merck Ltd and DRA Malvern (formerly RSRE). Ben Sturgeon continued his work on liquid crystals until his retirement. The first award was given jointly to Dr J C Jones and M J Towler, both of DRA (RSRE), for their work on the dielectric biaxiality of ferroelectric liquid crystals and its application to ferroelectric LCDs.



*Ron Johnson  
Chapter chair 93-94*

In 1992, it was announced that EuroDisplay '93 would be held in Strasbourg on 28-30 September 1993 at the Conference Centre of the European Parliament. The conference was organised jointly by Le Club Visu and SID.

After the event, Tony Lowe, European Vice-President commented that the meeting had been a success. The facilities were excellent and the number of papers and their quality had been high. He commended SID France Chapter and Le Club Visu for the outstanding job they had done in organising the event. He was concerned that the UK accounted for only 5% of the attendees and 3% of the papers presented. He attributed this to the decline in display R&D which had taken place in the UK in recent years. This was not the case in the rest of Europe and the USA.

Also in 1992, GEC LCD won the 1993 Prince of Wales Award for Innovation for its work on the development of the first generation of low-cost, non-volatile (i.e. with long-term memory) ferroelectric LCDs for use in electronic labelling systems and other systems requiring a display with a very low power consumption.

Associated Exhibitions in conjunction with the UKI Chapter organised a new style of exhibition and conference Electronic Information and Displays in 1993. EID 93 was held at Sandown Racecourse on 16-18 November 1993. Associated Exhibitions organised the displays exhibition and the UKI Chapter arranged a three-day conference. The conference covered future technical and commercial developments in all aspects of displays. There was a good response for both the exhibition and conference.



*Peter Raynes, speaker at  
Display Applications 1985*

The formation of a Mid-European Chapter in 1993 was announced following approval by the Board at the Symposium in Seattle. This would include countries on the European mainland from the Netherlands to Italy, which were not part of the former Eastern Bloc. Contacts had been made with Eastern Bloc countries including Poland and Russia.

The UKI Chapter did well in SID's 1994 Honours and Awards, with three of the Chapter's nominees receiving awards. Dr Peter Raynes, at that time working at Sharp Laboratories (UK), was made a Fellow of SID. He was awarded the fellowship for his outstanding contributions to the physics of liquid-crystal devices and liquid-crystal materials. The late Professor Peter Le Comber, from the University of Dundee won the Jan Rajchman Prize, which is presented for outstanding scientific or technical achievement in, or contribution to research on flat-panel displays. It was sad that Peter Le Comber did not live to receive his prize, but he was represented at the awards ceremony by his son. Peter Le Comber died suddenly in 1992 while on holiday in Switzerland.

Peter's pioneering work on the physics and applications of amorphous silicon was outstanding. Together with Professor Walter Spear, they made the University of Dundee the world leader in the field at that time. The third winner was Guy Hill, then managing director of Levy Hill Laboratories Ltd. He received his award for his life-time dedication to the development of phosphor-manufacturing processes and the creation of new phosphor materials, thus contributing significantly to the advance of the displays industry.

The 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the formation of the UKI Chapter was celebrated by a technical meeting and dinner which was held at Emmanuel College, Cambridge on 7 July 1995. Generous financial support was received from Central Research Laboratories, Philips Components Ltd, Regisbrook Group Ltd, SEOS Displays, Trident Microsystems Ltd and Varitronix (UK) Ltd. The inaugural meeting of the chapter was attended by 75 delegates and ten year later, the chapter membership had increased to 250.

The theme of the technical meeting was, 'The last ten years and the next ten years'. A distinguished list of speakers had been invited to review a range of display devices and systems and to give their views on what could be expected in the not too distant future. The meeting was held in the new conference centre at Emmanuel College. This had been opened in April 1995, only three months before the meeting which was the first to make use of the facilities.

On the day, the weather was good and gave the opportunity for delegates and their guests to stroll in the delightful grounds during the reception.

#### The Reception



*Prof Chuji Suzuki, Regional Vice President Asia*



*Laurie Allard talking with Alfred Woodhead (seated)  
And Mrs Woodhead*



*Barbara Needham (first treasurer, then current vice  
Chairman talking with Peter Raynes*



*Mino Green (first chair) talking with  
Derek Washington (first secretary)*



## The Dinner



*Paul Emmerson (Chair)*



*Tony Lowe (former Chair)*



*Professor Cyril Hilsum  
Guest Speaker*



*Alfred Woodhead receiving special award*



*Daphne Lampport receiving special award*

It is interesting to reread the report on the meeting written by Graham Weaver in the light of the present state of displays seventeen years later. The first paper was presented by Professor Peter Raynes then at Sharp Laboratories of Europe. He reviewed the development of passive LCDs, reporting that super-twisted nematic (STN) had been demonstrated with a contrast ratio of 30:1 and these could be combined with colour filters to produce colour, high-information-content displays at a lower cost than active LCDs. This was followed by a review of the development of active-matrix LCDs from the early 1970 by Dr Alan Knapp of Philips Research Laboratories. He stated that the AMLCD had become second only to the CRTs for importance in the display market, with applications



*Jim Hurd*

in laptop computers, monitors instrumentation and projectors. He highlighted the trend to larger displays with Sharp producing a 21 inch display. New applications for these displays would encourage the development of low-temperature poly-silicon LCDs which would enable the realisation of active-matrix LCDs incorporating their own drive circuits and other functions.

Jim Hurd, President/CEO of Planar Systems Inc. highlighted how emissive displays were becoming larger, with increased resolution, lower cost and full colour. Plasma technology had made good progress with the demonstration of a 21 inch full-colour display by Plasmaco. He predicted the use of colour PDPs for HDTV flat-panel displays. He describe how full-colour EL displays with new phosphors, integrated switching were likely to find application in a new generation of personal information systems.

The final paper of the morning was given by Meijndert van Alphen of the Philips Nat. Lab. Eindhoven, The Netherlands. He covered the history of Philips' colour-tube production, which started in Europe in 1964 and achieved the production of the 200 millionth colour TV tube in 1993. He compared the CRT with competing technologies and predicted that plasma displays would provide the greatest competition in the future. He felt that the future of the CRT was assured, because of the large existing manufacturing capacity around the world.

In the afternoon Dr Adrian Travis gave a paper on 3D video and virtual reality. He described a virtual reality system using vibrating mirrors and a line of LEDs in a game system to be launched by Sega.

Turning to 3D displays, he thought that most methods, such as the Sharp autostereoscopic system would require a head-tracking arrangement. He described other methods using frame-sequential and multi-projection techniques. He thought that 3D broadcasting would not be realised within the next ten years. Important applications were in remote manipulators in such applications as surgery, nuclear physics and bomb disposal.



*Meijndert van Alphen*

This paper was followed by Andy Hopper of Olivetti Research Ltd discussing the use of displays in multimedia. Applications include multi-view video phones and video mail as well as high-quality stereo audio and video phones. The final paper was presented by David Monk from Texas Instruments, who described the development of their digital micro-mirror device, which acts as a light modulator. This can deliver high-quality images when used in a projection system. A high-definition display of 848 x 600 pixels will be available in 1995.

In August 1995, came news of the death of Alfred Woodhead. He had been a guiding light in the setting up of the chapter in 1984. In the 10 years that followed, as a member of the committee, he was instrumental in establishing a very successful and active chapter. When he retired early from Philips Research Laboratories in 1986, the chapter benefitted enormously from the increased time that Alfred was able to devote to the day-to-day administration of the committee and the organisation of the technical meetings. The Best Paper Award was renamed the Alfred Woodhead Best Paper Award in his memory.

EuroDisplay 96 was held at the Metropole Hotel, Birmingham next to the National Exhibition Centre on 1-3 October 1996. The meeting comprised a three-day conference, exhibition and a one-day workshop. There was also a conference dinner held at the Motorcycle Museum. The event was attended by over 500 delegates, with 200 attending the active-matrix workshop. In his Keynote Address, J Smith of Philips Display Components Europe posed the question, 'Who dares challenge the CRT?'. Smith proposed that because of continuing development in R&D and production capacity



and the extremely large potential for growth in television where fewer than 1% of the population owned a set, the position of the CRT was unassailable. In an invited paper, E Yamazaki, formerly of Hitachi, but had moved to L G Electronics, considered that the essential differences between the CRT



*Barbara Needham presenting a cut-glass decanter and glasses to Ron Johnson*

and flat-panel displays were cost and size. He suggested that the cost advantage of the CRT would remain for 20 years (until 2016). In the second Keynote Address, E P Raynes of Sharp Laboratories of Europe outlined the future developments of LCD technology. The conference also endorsed the continuing importance of plasma displays.

The chapter were successful in their nominations for SID Awards in 1996. Professor George Gray was awarded the Jan Rajchman Prize for his outstanding contribution to the understanding of liquid-crystal materials and the creation of stable liquid-crystal materials for use in displays. Dr

Alan Knapp was appointed a Fellow of SID for his wide-ranging contributions to the physics, chemistry and electronics of CRTs and LCD active-matrix displays.

EID'97, Electronics Display Exhibition and Conference was held at Sandown Park on 18-20 November 1997. It was attended by 190 delegate days. The programme consisted of seven CRT papers on day 1, eight papers on emissive displays on day 2 and eight papers on LCDs on day 3.

At the Chapter AGM, held at Sony Broadcast and Professional Europe, Ron Johnson retired from his position as director and was succeeded by Alan Mosley. To mark his outstanding contribution to the Chapter, Barbara Needham presented him with a cut-glass decanter and glasses.

In 1998, Barbara Needham, Chapter Chair was elected to the position of Vice President Europe for SID. This important position enabled Barbara to influence the future development and direction of all the SID European Chapters. This would particularly involve the promotion of the new chapters in Europe, Mid Europe, Belarus and Russia. This promotion meant that Barbara had to relinquish her role as Chapter Chair and she was succeeded by Chris Williams. She stated that one of her aims was to promote contacts between the various European Chapters. The first of these contacts led to the visit of Professor Maxim Tomilin, Director of the Russian Chapter to make a presentation at the LCD one-day meeting at Sharp Laboratories of Europe.



*Professor Tomilin  
Delivering his paper at  
Sharp Laboratories*



*Joseph Castellano  
Keynote Speaker*

SEOS Displays was awarded two 1998 Queen's Awards to Industry. The first award was for Export Achievement, which was the second time the company had won this award. The second award was for Technological Achievement. This was awarded for the development of technologies for its Panorama and Prodas systems. Panorama display systems, which have a 220° H by 40° V field of view, were installed in helicopter simulators. The Prodas display systems were installed in marine bridge simulators.

The EID '98 Conference and Displays Exhibition was held at Sandown Park on 16-19 November 1998. This was the largest ever EID event held, which lead to its being raised to Regional Conference level in SID. In the first session a Keynote Speech was given by Joseph Castellano on Display Markets: Facts and Fantasies. In the course of his talk, he mentioned three main trends. The telecommunications sector of the

displays market will be the third largest after consumer and computer. Active-matrix displays could be swamped by plasma displays in the large-screen consumer TV market. Organic electroluminescent displays represent an exciting new technology. In his Keynote Speech, VDU Vision, Bryan Norris gave an account of the great diversity that existed in the European market for CRTs. The third Keynote Speech was presented by Edward Stupp where he described his vision for the evolution of the projection displays markets and technology.

Speakers in the programme from other European countries included Karl-Henrik and Juha Saarinen of Planar International, Finland. They presented a paper entitled, 'New EL displays for transportation applications'. They described construction and operation of the displays including the use of RGB filters for colour. They stated that EL displays have excellent picture quality with good contrast and wide angle. They are suitable for portable applications, because of their ruggedness and operation over a wide temperature range.

A paper on 'Up-to-date emission and modulation displays in Russia and other CIS countries' was given by Professor Victor Belyaev. He referred to the CRT as being the reference by which competing displays would be judged. A number of FEDs had been developed and VFDs were favoured for their luminance, response and viewing angle. Polymer LEDs were being developed and a number of companies were working on LCD displays.



*Victor Belyaev*

EID 2000 broke new ground by moving from Sandown Park to the new ExCel exhibition and conference centre in the London Docklands area. The meeting took place on 21 to 23 November 2000, which was the week that the venue was scheduled to open. Topics included a market review, market trends, emissive displays, 3D displays, microdisplays and human factors.



*Technical session in Tythe Barn, Knebworth House*

April 2001 saw the first of several meetings which were held at the Knebworth House Conference Centre. The conference centre consisted of two 15<sup>th</sup> century tithe barns. One barn was used for the conference and the other for refreshments. The venue made quite a change from the modern conference facilities used by the chapter and had convenient access from the A1(M). This first event at Knebworth was a one-day meeting and AGM. The topic for the technical session was a 'Display technology update'. Also at the meeting, Chris Williams gave an update on the Masters Degree Course. He describe how,

three years previously, masters degree modules were run by Cambridge, Dundee and Nottingham Trent Universities, funded by EPSRC. The courses were successful and Chris announced that this had lead to the setting up of a Masters Training Programme in 'Display technologies, systems and applications'. The Masters degree could be studied full time for 12 months or part time over two to three years. It would also be possible for engineers and scientist to take individual modules as stand-alone training.

In 2001, Daphne Lamport received a Special Recognition Award from SID. This was presented to her by Barbara Needham. She was also presented with a Peace Lily (*Spathiphyllum wallisii*) by John Raines, Chapter Chair on behalf of the committee for her great contribution to the



*Barbara Needham presenting the award to Daphne Lamport*



work of the committee and UK Chapter. Daphne was a member of Alfred Woodhead's Group at Philips Research Laboratories. She became a member of the chapter at its inauguration and joined the committee shortly after that. She took over the role of Meetings Registrar and Newsletter Editor and devoted a great deal of effort to these posts until she left the committee in 1998.

EuroDisplay 2005 was held at the Edinburgh International Conference Centre on 20-22 September 2005, with John Raines as the event organiser. One of the problems in organising this type of conference is finding a venue which has a large conference hall for the plenary sessions and three smaller rooms for the parallel sessions. The



*Larry Weber, President SID at Eurodisplay 2005*



*'Robert the Bruce' welcoming delegates at Eurodisplay 2005 Conference dinner in Edinburgh Castle*

Edinburgh Centre has such a large hall. The top tiers can be rotated forming two smaller conference rooms and there was a third room available as well. The conference dinner took place in Edinburgh Castle, sponsored by Sharp. At this event, delegates were able to tour the castle, including the state rooms and Scottish crown jewels and the stone of destiny.

Sharp SID Award funded by Sharp was set up in 2007. It was designed to be given to someone who, as a graduate student, had made a recent significant

contribution to the field of information displays. In 2007, it was awarded to Dr Adrian Cable of Light Blue Optics, who completed his PhD under Tim Wilkinson at the University of Cambridge. Adrian's work has resulted in an algorithm, which allows binary phase holograms to be generated in real time.



*Professor Donal Bradley FRS Imperial opening the Organic Electronics meeting*



*Boon Kar receiving her award from Dr Richard Harding, Chapter Chair*

An area of growing importance in the world of displays in 2007 was organic electronics. Dr Alasdair Campbell, a committee member from Imperial College suggested a technical meeting on the topic at Imperial College. Thus the first meeting on Organic Electronics for Displays was held at Imperial College, on 17-18 September 2007. The meeting also included a student poster competition with a prize sponsored by Merck Chemicals Ltd. The award was won by Boon Kar of Imperial College. This first meeting was a well-attended successful event attracting speakers and delegates from overseas. With the increasing maturity of the field the meeting and has been held annually ever since.

In 2011, a questionnaire was sent out to members to obtain feedback on how to improve the activities of the chapter.

The committee are currently planning EuroDisplay 2013, which will take place at Imperial College on 16-19<sup>th</sup> September 2013.