A glimpse in the past—the Eddystone Development Laboratory in 1938

I had an e-mail from the son of a man who had worked in the development laboratory of Stratton's at Bromsgrove Street in 1938. He also sent me a photograph taken of him and his colleagues at the time.



His father was Walter Lovering and he is shown in the foreground of the picture in the white coat facing the right. Wal, as he was known, left the company to go to Nottingham University just before the war. Bill Cooke remembers him also taking the Chair in Communications at Imperial College, London and also going to take up a similar post at Sydney University. His son tells me passed away in 1998 aged 84 and that he retired as Professor Lovering of the University of Surrey. Bill Cooke has managed to identify the other people in the picture. To the left of Walter is Stan Marbut who was a model maker. To his right, with the headphones, is Derek Pike, another university graduate. Behind Derek, in the suit, looking over the drawing board, is Harold Cox, who was General Manager (later Technical Director) and next to him is Ted Laws, the draughtsman. The chap on the right hand side of the picture is believed to be a visitor from Poland on an acceptance visit. Other alumni of Eddystone Radio engineers from the 30's and 40's went on to greater things. In Bill Cooke's reminiscences "The Cooke Report" he states that David Parsons went on to become Chief Engineer of Redifon, Ken Barratt became head of Sony Europe, George Brown, G5JB, became Chief Engineer of Birmingham Police, Alf Cox went on to be Senior Engineer at Westinghouse in Bloomfield, New Jersey and Jim Roche became Sales Director at Imhofs

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