

RICHARD YEOMAN-CLARK (d. 2019)

From Facebook:

'The BBC Alumni (official page for ex-BBC people)' Group

It is with great sadness that I convey news that Richard Yeoman-Clark passed away on September 16th following a short illness.

Richard joined BBC Radio direct from school as a Technical Operator at Broadcasting House, moving to the Experimental Stereo Unit as the Recording Engineer a couple of years later. There he was involved with the integration of Stereo Operations from just test transmissions into the regular output of Radio 3 in the late 1960s. As stereo proliferated across BBC Radio he transferred to the Music Department as a Studio Manager. There his technical expertise was in demand for the presentation of electronic music concerts working with contemporary composers such as Stockhausen, Berio, Boulez etc. This experience led him to join the BBC Radiophonic Workshop where he produced the special sound for the science fiction series Blake's Seven, amongst other programmes. Later he became the Technical Coordinator for the Workshop when electronic synthesisers started taking over from Musique Concrete.

Richard left the BBC in 1978 to become the Chief Technical Engineer at Roundhouse Recording Studios and oversaw the installation and operation of one of the first 3M Digital Multitrack Mastering System in the UK. Leaving Roundhouse Studios in the early 1980s he joined FWO Bauch as a field service engineer, later becoming Service Manager for their Professional Broadcast products.

In 2002, Richard was recruited to the BFI National Archive where his vast knowledge and experience of sound and digital techniques transformed the audio department's capabilities to cater for sound restoration of the optical soundtracks of films being restored by the BFI for both theatrical and DVD release. Perhaps most notably, Richard led the sound restoration project for a special David Lean Centenary

collection of ten of the best known Lean films which were re-released digitally in 2008.

Since his retirement from the BFI in 2012, Richard has been the technical powerhouse behind the Church Stretton Arts Festival, quietly providing a dazzling array of skills, knowledge and equipment each year to the benefit of numerous artists and audiences.

Charlie Fairall

From Facebook:

The 'BBC Radiophonic Workshop' Group

Richard spent seven years at the BBC Radiophonic Workshop, starting in 1971. He (like Dick Mills) was more technician than composer but took to the EMS Synthi 100 like a duck to water, creating many memorable works such as Waltz Antipathy and Mysterioso - the latter created for the first season of Blake's Seven, perhaps his greatest "claim to fame", for which he created all the initial signature sounds before Elizabeth Parker took over part way through season two.

After leaving the Workshop, Richard spent four years as Chief Technical Engineer at the Roundhouse Recording Studios before heading to FWO Bauch as Service Manager. He later spent time lecturing, working on audio archiving at the BFI, and in his later years was Technical Director for the Church Stretton Arts Festival.

Mark Ayres