Chapter 9
Physics Alumni 1851–1961

Students 1871–76

The first student to graduate with a Victoria University (Owens College) degree in physics was Albert Griffiths in 1890. From 1867 until 1890, students registered for full time or part time courses and in some cases, proceeded to study for degree courses elsewhere. Schuster’s colleagues [6] listed some of the past students who had been connected with the Physical Laboratories, admitting that the list was not complete.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1867–72</td>
<td>John Henry Poynting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1868–70</td>
<td>Ernest Howard Griffiths</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1871–76</td>
<td>Joseph John Thomson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1884–87</td>
<td>Charles Thomson Rees Wilson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1879–81</td>
<td>William Stroud</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1880–82</td>
<td>Henry Stroud</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1875–77</td>
<td>Arthur Mason Worthington</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Graduates 1890–1951 & Student group Photographs

The degrees of PhD and DSc were first introduced in Manchester in 1918 and it was the norm before this time and for a period thereafter, for BSc
graduates to follow up with a one year MSc course.

1890

First Class: Albert Griffiths.
Third Class: Ernest Edward Dentith Davies.

Albert Griffiths Assoc. Owens 1890, MSc 1893, DSc 1899.

After graduating, Albert Griffiths was a research student, fellow, demonstrator and lecturer at Owens between 1892 and 1898, in between posts at Freiburg, Southampton and Sheffield. He became Head of the Physics Department at Birkbeck in 1900.

E E D Davies, born on the Isle of Man, obtained a BSc in mathematics in 1889, an MSc in 1892, a BA in 1893 before becoming a Congregational Minister in 1895. Joseph Thompson lists him [246], as a student at the Lancashire Independent College in 1893. He wrote a book Science Experiments. A course in practical mechanics and physics for senior classes in elementary schools, and first year preliminary technical classes, published in 1912 and then The Sunny Side of the Hedge, and other stories to tell children, published in 1939.

1892

Third Class: William Paul Steinthal.

1893

Third Class: Thomas Coulborn Armitage.

T C Armitage M.Sc 1896.

1894
First Class: James Dewsbury Chorlton.

J D Chorlton Assoc. Owens. 1894, MSc 1897.

1896

2nd Class: William Bolton Shaw.

W B Shaw Assoc. Owens 1895, MSc 1898.

1897

Third Class: Edward Reeve.

E Reeve MSc 1909.

1898

First Class: William Mason.
2nd Class: James Lord, Joseph Lustgarten.


1899

Third Class: John Tomlinson.

H Morris-Airey Assoc Owens 1899, MSc 1903. J Tomlinson Assoc Owens 1902, MSc 1902.

1900

First Class: George Clarke Simpson.
W S Brooks Assoc Owens 1902, MSc 1903. G C Simpson MSc 1905, DSc 1906. R C Whale Assoc Owens 1901, MSc 1903.

1901

2nd Class: Tom Douglas Farrar.
Third Class: Alphonso Fritchlan Quarmby.

T D Farrar Assoc. Owens 1901, MSc 1904. A F Quarmby Assoc Owens 1901, MSc 1904.

Despite having a name that defies any other person on the planet to share it, I have been unable to trace the future career of Mr Quarmby.

1902

2nd Class: Frederick Alwyn Haig, Edgar Sutcliffe.


1903

First Class: Leonard Noel Barker, Travis Rimmer, Frederick Unwin.
2nd Class: Thomas Wadsworth.
Third Class: Harry Hirst.

H Hirst MSc 1906. F Unwin MSc 1906. T Wadsworth MSc 1906.

1904
**1905**

*First Class:* James Robert Beard.

*2nd Class:* Harold Clarke.

*Third Class:* Edith Lettice Hewlett, Arthur Westley Wildridge.


---

**1906**

*First Class:* Thomas Royds.

*Third Class:* Samuel Greenup Atkinson, Alice Jane Taylor.

S G Atkinson MSc 1914. T Royds MSc 1906, DSc 1911.

---

**1907**


*2nd Class:* Thomas Gough.

*Third Class:* James Bleakley, Clifford Riley.


---

**1908**

*First Class:* Percy Maden Elton, William Albert Harwood, Roberto Rossi.

*Not Classified:* John West.
1909

First Class: Ernest Marsden, Margaret White.

2nd Class: Harold Gerrard.

H Gerrard MSc 1910. E Marsden MSc 1910, DSc 1914. M White MSc 1910, DSc 1919, became Mrs R B Fishenden.

1910

First Class: Henry (Harry) Cotton.


Third Class: Christopher England Waugh.


1911


2nd Class: John Alfred Clayton, George Matthews, Ernest Nightingale.

J Chadwick MSc 1912. J M Nuttall MSc 1912, DSc 1929. J Higham MSc 1921. E Nightingale MSc 1911. H Robinson is named as Harold in the 1911–12 University Calendar and as Harold Roper in the University 1958 cumulative index [245]. He was awarded MSc in 1912 and DSc in 1917. H P Walmsley MSc 1912, DSc 1929.

1912

First Class: Doris Bailey, Ernest Green, Harry Richardson, Albert Beaumont Wood.

753
D Bailey BSc Mathematics 1913, MSc 1920, MA honoris causa 1952. E Green MSc 1913. H Richardson MSc 1913. A B Wood MSc 1913, DSc 1919.

1913

First Class: George Edward Condliffe, Bernard Williams.
Not Classified: Charles Cheadle Holland.

R H Wilson MSc 1923.

1914

First Class: Hartley Lupton, William Ferdinando Rawlinson.
Third Class: Walter Caleb Lantsberry.

J W Lewis MSc 1926. W F Rawlinson MSc 1915, D.Sci. 1923. F P Slater MSc 1921. H Lupton MSc 1922.

1915

2nd Class: Gilbert Lindsay, James Poole, William Swaine.
Third Class: William Staton, William Ewart Williams.

W E Williams MSc 1926.

1916

First Class: Norman Tunstall, Joseph West.
2nd Class: Gertrude Fallows Cocks, Charles Croxson, Hilda Constance Parish.
Third Class: John Philip Kelly.
G Cocks MScTech 1918, became Mrs E V Newnham. J West MSc 1932, DSc 1932.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>First Class</th>
<th>2nd Class</th>
<th>3rd Class</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1917</td>
<td>Annie Ellis</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1919</td>
<td>Evelyn Taylor</td>
<td>Evelyn Taylor</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Evelyn Taylor became Mrs J B Wright.</td>
<td>Evelyn Taylor became Mrs J B Wright.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1921</td>
<td>Hilary Bradley</td>
<td>Leonard Fielden</td>
<td>William Greenall Allanson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>H Bradley MSc 1934</td>
<td>H Bradley MSc 1934</td>
<td>H Bradley MSc 1934</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1922</td>
<td>Harold Boffey, Ernest Butterworth, Frank Charnley, Anthony James Hailwood</td>
<td>Edward Wattleworth Corlett, George Ernest Lanigan</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>E Butterworth MScTech 1926. E W Corlett MEd 1931. G E Lanigan MScTech 1931</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1923</td>
<td>Orrell Darbyshire, James Gregory, Thomas Simm Littler, Leonard Wilcox</td>
<td>Sidney Alexander Walker</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

O Darbyshire MSc 1924. T S Littler MSc 1926, PhD 1934. L Wilcox MSc 1924.

1924

First Class:  Samuel Causey, Dorothy Heyworth, Frank Ward, William Arnold Wood.

2nd Class (i):  Thomas Boyer, Guy Burniston Brown, Thomas Frederick Spokes.


Third Class:  Harold Collinson, John Francis Kelly, John Pickston, Harold Redford, Joseph Tankard, Thomas Gordon Fletcher Wild.


1925

First Class:  Walter Binks, John Turton Randall, James Thewlis.

2nd Class (i):  James Adamson, George Harold Cashen, William Ernest Dawson, James Jackson Riley.

2nd Class (ii):  Henry Septimus Barlow, Ellis Cockram, Eric Shore Davies, Thomas Stanley Hartley, Ellis Livesey, Maurice Longworth.


1926

2nd Class (i): Charles Henry Gregory, Leonard Edward Hall.
Third Class: John Fowles, Albert France, Robert Howarth, Wallace Rasburn.


1927

2nd Class (ii): John Kenneth Elliot, Cyril Isherwood, Albert Mayne Knight, John Latham Whitaker.
Third Class: John Dalton Alderson.


The photograph of the 1927 graduation class (Figure 9.1 on the following page) was kindly given to me by Alison Goddard, the grand-daughter of Norman Abbott Alston, who graduated that year.
The photograph also offers the advantage of confirming the image of James Albert Darbyshire. In a letter to me of Dec 28th 1996, Arthur Porter asserted that J A Darbyshire, with whom he shared a lab in is on the extreme right of the 4th row in the department photograph taken ca. 1929, shown in figure 6.3. Darbyshire shares several features with Alan Turing. He never married. He also worked on the science of a top secret military project in which Germans and Russians alike were interested and like Turing, he was unexpectedly found dead of cyanide poisoning in the 1950s.

Cyril Isherwood, appointed physics teacher at Scarborough High School for Boys in 1935, was a founder member of the Scarborough Phoenix Drama Club.
J Mc Bruckshaw obtained a PhD at Imperial College in 1934, having taken part in the Imperial Geophysical Experimental Survey to test Australia’s mineral wealth 1928–30. The Daily News of Perth reported his arrival in Perth on the R.M.S. Orvieto on 22 January 1929, on his way to Melbourne. He was then a scientific officer at the Fuel Research Station 1935-37, before returning to Imperial College as a lecturer in physics 1937-48. He was then a reader in geophysics 1948-54 and professor 1954-69 becoming a much revered head of the geophysics department.

On July 20th 1946, J K Elliot asked his former professor W L Bragg to support his application for promotion the post of Deputy Education Officer in Manchester. Bragg wrote to say:

‘I cannot add much to the testimonials I gave Elliot in 1927 and 1930. Memory of Manchester students is getting dim. I think Elliot did well in the more elementary work but was not equal to the more gruelling third year test. He was a businesslike, efficient student and should be an excellent Education Officer.’

Indeed, Elliot eventually rose to become the Chief Education Officer and is remembered for his dynamic contributions to Manchester Education.

1928

First Class: Charles Dunbar, William Welsby Jackson, Raymond George Wood.


2nd Class (ii): Frank Leighton Finch, Alan Meadows.

Third Class: Leslie Ernest Heath.


None of the graduates has been definitely identified in the group shown in Figure 9.2 below and the only reason for thinking that this might be 1928 is that
the person standing second from the right (fair hair brushed back) looks somewhat like W W Jackson. The absence of any of any female graduates in the class of 1928 is supportive that this graduation photo was taken that year.

Figure 9.2: A graduation class, possibly 1926. Standing L to R: –, –, –, W A Kay, –, –, –. Seated L to R: –, W L Bragg, R W James, –.

1929

First Class: Jack Finney.
2nd Class (i): Cecil Bellis, Fenton Braithwaite.

C Bellis MScTech. 1933. P C Thornely MScTech. 1939. T Willcox MSc 1930.
Flying Officer 61321 Philip Cawthorn Thornely of the Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve, died 14th March 1941 aged 34 and lies in Stockport Crematorium, panel 6.

Fenton Braithwaite, OBE, MSc, FRCS, (1908–25 Aug 1985) had a remarkable career, carrying on the prodigy culture of Manchester by matriculating from Baines Grammar School at the age of 13 and according to his obituary [247], entering Manchester for an honours degree in mathematics when he was 16, the minimum age allowed for entry to a degree course. The official University Register, however, contains no record of him being awarded a mathematics degree. After misspelling the name of his school, the obituary then cites an MSc at the age of 21, whereas the official University Register entry shows it to be a BSc in physics, with his MSc awarded in 1931. We therefore take with caution the obituary’s further claim that he then won a scholarship to Gonville and Caius to read biochemistry, anatomy and physiology, being awarded, according to his obituary, double first class honours. He then proceeded to St. Bartholomew’s Hospital to secure desired medical qualifications. He gained a reputation for reconstructive surgery, especially cleft lip and palate deformities in children which he ‘lovingly and expertly converted into some of the best results in the world’ [247]. During World War II, the experience he gained in the Royal Air Force made him an expert in the management of burn injuries and his physics background provided input to the radio-therapy service that he devised for head and neck cancers. Fenton Braithwaite epitomises the soul of this chapter: Manchester physics graduates who went on to bestride other worlds.

1930

First Class: Francis Wilfrid Cotton, James Stanley Hey, Richard Arnold Hoyle Hope, Herbert Myers Parker, Harry Potter.

2nd Class (i): George Lees, Ronald Leslie Moore.

2nd Class (ii): Wilfred Garthwaite, Roland Jackson.

Third Class: Arthur Charnock Smith.

1931

First Class: Joseph Bor, Eric Eastwood, Deborah Jackson, Albert Sidney Louis Morgan, Thomas Stafford Walker.


2nd Class (ii): Hedley Vickers Ellis, Ernest Hughes, Arnold Mather, Mahmoud Omar, Francis James Stubbs.

Third Class: John Henry Corkill, Fahmy Yousif Girgis, James Moorhouse Gorton, George Alfred Richardson.


After graduating in physics, Oscar Janus turned to medicine, eventually becoming a consultant physician in Oldham. Born in Manchester, the son of a shipping merchant, he went to prep school in Buxton and then public school at Epworth College. During his time at Manchester he was president of the University Union. As a squadron leader in the RAFVR between 1946 and 1948 he was involved in the care of patients with tuberculosis in field hospitals all over the country. From 1948 until 1951 he was chief assistant to J H Kellgren at the Nuffield rheumatism research department at Manchester Royal Infirmary. Then in 1951 he was appointed consultant physician to the Oldham Group of Hospitals, where he established intensive care units and founded the postgraduate medical centre.

1932

First Class: Duncan Cameron, Dennis Illingworth Lawson, Philip Parker.

2nd Class (i): Margaret Renton Fawthrop, Eric Howgate, Ronald Stanley Walshaw.

2nd Class (ii): Frederick Everard Baguley, Kenneth Freeman, John Hurst, Arthur Jones.


1933

First Class: J W Illingworth, Ronald Liddington, Arthur Porter, Thomas Herbert Reynolds, Abraham Taylor.

2nd Class (i): Leslie Wilson Ball, Alice Edwards, William Huntingdon, Thomas Murray Martin.


Third Class: Alfred Harvey Mitchell, Syed Ahmed Quadri, Jesse Holland Walker.


Syed Ahmed Quadri was born in Tekmal in 1908, the son of sufi Syed Mahmood Pasha Quadri and Amatul Fatima Shahzadi Begum through whom his lineage can be traced to the fourth Caliph Ali ibn Abi Talib who ruled over the Islamic Caliphate from 656 to 661 AD. Syed’s ancestors migrated from Baghdad to Tekmal, in Andhra Pradesh whence Syed acquired Indian nationality. After graduating from Manchester with a degree in physics, he became a lecturer in physics at Osmania University. In the tradition of tall Mancunian physicists like Fokker, Darwin, Robinson and Bohr, he exploited his tallness in university sports and paramilitary activities. He was awarded the title of Khan Saheb by the British government of India in 1943, when the photograph shown in Figure 9.3 on the next page was taken. His career blossomed in Indian education and be became an advisor to the UN. He died on 16th May 1990 and is buried in the ancestral tomb in Tekmal.
1934

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>First Class:</th>
<th>Leo Connell, Gordon King, Amy Alice Smith.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2nd Class (i):</td>
<td>Alexander Dumbill, Joan M. Honeyburne, Leslie Twyford.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd Class (ii):</td>
<td>James Dawber, Herbert Green.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Third Class:</td>
<td>Eric Bowen, Alan Young Cooper, Margaret Farrimond, Clifford Flemming, Frederick Breakell Stubbs.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Margaret Farrimond became Mrs Nicholas Westcott. Joan Honeyburne became Mrs Beresford Bland in 1945. G. King MSc 1935.

According to the magazine of Manchester High School For Girls, Joan M. Honeyburne left the High School in 1931 and started her degree course at Manchester that year. After her BSc in 1934, she gained an MSc in 1935 before
pursuing her career in radiology, for instance, in the Physics Department of the Royal Cancer Hospital, now the Royal Marsden NHS Foundation Trust in London. She was born in the Guisborough district in 1913, her family moving to Chorlton by 1917. Her marriage to Beresford M. Bland, librarian at Southampton University is registered in index of births, marriages and deaths in the Cockermouth district during the last quarter of 1945.

1935


1936

First Class: Neville Samuel Billington, Philip Simpson Crowther, Harold Edge, Agnes Muriel Fletcher, Maurice Stephenson.

2nd Class (i): John Kenneth Berry, John Johnson.


Third Class: Helmut Julius Goldschmidt, Charles Speers Parsonage, Joseph Mylchreest Qualtrough.

N S Billington MSc 1937. P S Crowther M.Sc 1940. Agnes Fletcher MSc 1937, became Mrs Thomas. H J Goldschmidt MSc 1938, DSc 1955.

Despite having a name to match 1901 graduate Alphonso Fritzalan Quarmby, that also defies anyone to share it, I have found no trace of Joseph Mylchreest Qualtrough’s further career.
1937

First Class: John Crank, Ronald Lee Stafford.
Third Class: Marjorie Kathleen Fallas.


1938

First Class: Herbert Fletcher, Peter Ingleby, Reginald Meredith.
2nd Class (i): Alan Heathcote, Joseph Paine, Arthur Pennington, Alan Walsh.
Third Class: Norman Clarke, Cyril Dewhurst Stringfellow.


Reginald Meredith briefly did research on cosmic rays before joining the British Cotton Industry Research Association. He became a Senior Lecturer in the Department of Textile Industries at Manchester College of Science and Technology in 1952 and then Professor of Textile Technology at Glasgow University in 1957.

1939

2nd Class (i): James Rennie Whitehead.
**Third Class:** Eric Gallagher, William Anthony Greenwood, John Bromiley Sharples, Gerard Wood.

M M Nicolson MSc 1944. A Schofield MSc 1940.

### 1940

**First Class:** Sidney Benjamin Jackson, Albert Hickford Turnbull.

**2nd Class (i):** Charles Harold Forshaw, Frank Fowweather, Alfred Victor Parker, John Bryan Thornton.

**2nd Class (ii):** Derick Jacob Behrens, James Cooper.

**Third Class:** Frank Walter Holmes.

F Fowweather PhD 1951.

### 1941

**First Class:** Stanley William Baynham, Henry Elliot, John Greenhalgh, Charles Brian Anthony McCusker.

**2nd Class (i):** William Campbell, Douglas William Nicol Dolbear.

**2nd Class (ii):** Philip Cowlin.

**Third Class:** Lilian Higham.


### 1942

**First Class:** Edith Marjorie Boardman, Douglas Broadbent.

**2nd Class (i):** Joseph Anderson, John Pierson.

**2nd Class (ii):** Henry Ashworth Prime, John Felix Wood.

**Third Class:** Robert Arthur Chippendale, James Kent.

Edith Boardman became Mrs. Greenhalgh. H. A. Prime MSc 1946.
Figure 9.4 contains seven of the eight graduates of 1942, together with staff member Jimmy Nuttall. The identities of all persons in this photograph were confirmed to me by Douglas Broadbent in my office in 2003. Douglas, who lectured to me on mechanics in 1959, also graduated in this group.

![Graduation Class of 1942.](Image)

Seated L to R: J Pierson, J Nuttall, E M Boardman.  
Graduate Robert Chippendale was not present for the photograph.*

**1943**

*First Class:* William Leslie Wilcock.

*Third Class:* William Kenneth Donaldson, Joseph Hall, Stanley Martin.

W K Donaldson MSc 1945, PhD 1946. W L Wilcock PhD 1951.
1944

**First Class:** George Paul Adamson, Herbert Frederick Kay, Colm Norbert Welsman Litting.

**2nd Class (i):** William Bardsley, Bernard Eastwood, Maurice Edmundson, James Holden, James Moss, John Templeton.

**2nd Class (ii):** Peter Denton, Walter Grattidge, James Hirst Hodgson, Joseph Harry Jaffe, William Rimmer Linton.

**Third Class:** Edward Dewhurst, Alan Howard Shaw.


1945

**First Class:** Roy Claude Faust, Walter Hopgood, Pamela Gwenllian Morris.


**2nd Class (ii):** John Reginald Beattie, Audrey Letitia Greenfield Heckels.

R C Faust MSc 1946, PhD 1949. P G Morris MSc 1946, became Mrs Robert Dunsmuir. W J Morris MSc 1948.

1946

**First Class:** John Reginald Cook, Albert Leslie Hodson.

**2nd Class (i):** Kenneth Westerman.

**2nd Class (ii):** Louis Cohen, Rita Procter.


Leslie Hodson became an expert on cloud chambers. He stayed on after PhD and helped to build the famous Jungfraujoch chamber in the department’s workshops, before following J G Wilson to Leeds when the cosmic ray group disintegrated. In 1997, on the jubilee anniversary of the discovery of V-particles
in Manchester, he invited me to Leeds where he showed me the Jungfraujoch chamber, which he had modified for use in the undergraduate teaching laboratory and then took me to a warehouse storage depot in Armley, where he was paying rent for the housing of his enormous quark detecting cloud chamber, into which he walked. The Jungfraujoch chamber was promptly driven back to Manchester by me, with the help of undergraduate Brian Cox, whose expert knowledge of the Pennine Range gradients brought the heavy chamber safely back to Manchester where it now lives.

1947

First Class: Geoffrey Wallwork Eastwood.
2nd Class (i): Anthony Carruthers Benson, Henry Whalley Duckworth, Edgar Lipworth, William Geraint Vaughan Rosser.


1948

First Class: Richard Bruce Owen, Alan Arthur Shepherd, Gordon Eric Thomas, Arnold Whittaker Wolfendale.
2nd Class (i): Keith Homer Barker, Peter Chippindale, Joseph Stanley Greenhow, Derek Jakeman, Charles Gordon Little, Alan Francis Moore, John Jackson Sparkes.
Third Class:  Brian Birtwhistle, William Earley, John Thomas Hall, Dennis Jones, John Ernest Orleans Lindsay, Frederick Morley, Kenneth Taylor, George Harry Webster.


1949

First Class:  George Derek Bell, Alan Dunworth, Gerald Nathan Fowler, Arvid Herzenberg, Kenneth Reginald Keep, Roylance Knowles, Francis John Lowes, Reginald Scott, Marjorie Woodward Swift.


1950

First Class: Paul Joseph Black, Arnold Brendon Clare, Kenneth Durham, Raymond Hide, Harry Hughes, Derek Raynor, Derek Shaw.

2nd Class (i): Alfred Bennett, Adrian Anthony Langhorn Browne, Raymond Cooper, John Kenneth Crawshaw, Frank Brian Crossley, Brian Vernon Daniels, Alan Michel Devall, Thomas Ashworth Duerden, Joseph Brian Earnshaw, Derek Bathurst Gayther, John Edward Geake, John Higson Gerrard, George Grimshaw, Brian David James, William Alexander Scott Murray, Peter Rowden, John Leslie Rowlands, Raymond Shaw, Kenneth Eric Williams.


Paul Black obtained a PhD at Cambridge in X-Ray crystallography, moved to Birmingham, where he became professor.

After his BSc at Manchester, Raymond Hide went to Gonville and Caius where he obtained a PhD and after a brief spell at the University of Chicago, worked at Harwell, was then a lecturer at King’s College, Newcastle from 1957 to 1961, before becoming Professor of Geophysics and Physics at M.I.T. He was then Head of the Geophysical Fluid Dynamics Lab at the Met Office (1967 to 1990). He was appointed a Fellow of Jesus College, Oxford in 1983, holding his fellowship until 1996. Between 1984 and 1990, he was also Professor of Astronomy at Gresham College, based in central London. He was Director of the Robert Hooke Institute and a Visiting Professor in the Department of Physics at the University of Oxford from 1990 to 1992. He is, moreover, a member of the Pontifical Academy of Sciences, having been appointed by Pope John Paul II in 1996. Hide was elected a Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences in 1964, a Fellow of the Royal Society in 1971, awarded the Royal Society’s Hughes Medal in 1998 and appointed CBE in 1990. Since 2000, he has been Senior Research Investigator, at the Department of Mathematics, Imperial College London.
Derek Shaw (who provided Figure 9.5) obtained his PhD at Imperial College, then R&D at BTH Rugby (1953 - 1963) then in the Physics Dept at Hull.

Figure 9.5: The 1950 physics graduates: an informal grouping in the main University Quadrangle. 1: Margaret Wilson. 2: Raymond Shaw. 3: Frank B Crossley. 4: John E Geake. 5: Barbara A Fisher. 6: Gordon W Meggitt. 7: Janet A Newton. 8: Paul J Black. 9: Thomas A Duerden.

Kenneth Durham, Derek Raynor and Roger Jennison were all ex-servicemen and hence some years older than others in the class.

(Sir) Kenneth Durham eventually became chairman of Unilever and Kingfisher, the parent company of Woolworth’s. He was considered to be a breath of Lancastrian fresh air when he was chosen as chairman of Unilever in 1982. Controlled by a ‘special committee’ representing the British and Dutch arms of the group, Unilever had the reputation of a cautious corporate bureaucracy; but Durham’s style was pungent and outspoken: ‘Just think of the amount of gut
there is out there for metabolising food,’ he observed, in relation to future sales
prospects. ‘It’s huge.’ He attributed his rise through Unilever’s hierarchy to his
analytical powers as a research scientist combined with physical stamina and an
ability to take decisions and not worry about them afterwards. He was equally
outspoken on political issues such as the Labour minister Tony Benn’s white
paper on state intervention in industry, which Durham described as ‘sinister’
and apparently ‘directed towards political ends rather than towards solving the
economic problems of the country’. He had married Irene Markham, whom he
first met when he was 16, in 1946 before he started his delayed degree course.

After a spell as lecturer at Manchester, Roger Jennison became a
professor of electronic engineering at Essex.

Peter Lord became professor of acoustics at Salford.

Gordon Westall Meggitt went on to qualify as a surveyor and joined the
British Overseas Surveys, serving in various African countries and then Malaysia
for which he was awarded an OBE.

1951

First Class: John Scott Buchanan, Ian Butterworth, Harold Charnock,
Phiroze Dorab Kapadia, James Ring, Michael Graham Sowerby,
Lawrence Alfred Wyatt.

2nd Class (i): Kenneth Alwyn Bailey, Neville Taylor Byrom, George
Crossley, Derek George Deeprose, Stanley Evans, Geoffrey Roy
Holderness, John Victor Major, Geoffrey Victor Marr, Douglas
Ian Page, Helen McCall Paterson, John Potts, Alan Leopold
Rodgers, Cecil Rubenstein, Peter Henry Romans Scholefield,
William Snowden, Connell Allison Uttley, David Slater Wilde,


George Crossley wrote to me in 2011 to say that

‘It was a very exciting time to be in the physics department - that Blackett even had, only half in jest, threatened to ban the discovery of any more ‘fundamental particles’ until some of the existing lot had been sorted out - and there was also the explosion of progress in electronics and computing going on next door in the electrical engineering department, under F. C. Williams. There was excellent cooperation between the two departments at that time - some physics undergraduates were given the option of taking a proportion of lectures in the electrical engineering
department, and doing their third year ‘long experiment’ under Fred Williams’ guidance. Cyril Bolton and I both accepted this offer, which is probably why I ended up going to Malvern, rather than staying on at Manchester.’

Peter Zernik told me that his father Wolfgang Zernik came to England at the age of eight in 1939 on a Kindertransport from Leipzig.

Figure 9.6: The 1951 physics graduates.
The two people in the photo named as J Ring and P D Kapadia were listed as Edward Ormesher and Brian MacDonald by Helen Major. Finally, Helen’s list named the person third from the right on the front row as ‘Abbot’ but no person of that name, nor Abbott, graduated in physics in any year up till then. A John Abbott obtained an ordinary degree in science that year and it is possible he was included in the photo for some reason.

1952

First Class: J W Bradley, M S Coates, J L Douce, J C Gill, M N A Possener, Peter Rastall, R J Rout, G P Spilsbury.


Peter Rastall obtained his BSc and then a PhD under the loose supervision of Léon Rosenfeld and Julius Podolansky, whereafter he chose to do his National Service in the Rolls-Royce aero-engine division, which was a ‘reserved occupation’. On being offered a post at the University of British Columbia, three months before the expiration of his ‘duty’ he seized the initiative by sending a letter of resignation to Rolls-Royce and catching the next boat to Canada. In the spirit of Henry Royce, the company never asked the Ministry of Defence to send a
pressgang to bring him back and he spent the next 39 years in Vancouver.

**1953**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>First Class:</th>
<th>W A Cooper, E M Dunstan, K C Lapworth, P H Lissberger, E J Squires, Dennis Walsh.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

xxx xxx xxx
Figure 9.7: The 1953 physics graduates with staff.

Back Row: –, –, –, –, –, –, –, –, –, –, –, –, –, –, –, –,
Middle Row: –, –, –, –, –, –, –, –, –, –, –, –, –, –, –, –, –

1954

First Class: Vivian M Bradley, P Y Millns, B W Powell, Barrie Rowson, Herbert Steiner.


In the interim between Blackett’s departure in 1953 and Devons’ arrival in 1955, George Rochester acted as Director of the Physical Laboratories. But it was decided that professors should take the prime spot in the group photograph and hence Kopal and Lovell occupy the two centre seats.
The newspaper *Feuille d’Avis de Neuchatel* carried the following short, tragic report on Wednesday December 21st 1955.

‘Grindelwald 20 Dec. - Un jeune Anglais de 22 ans, M. Peter Millns, astronome à la station de recherches de haute montagne du Jungfraujoch, est tombé dans une crevasse d’une profondeur de 40 mètres, où il s’est tué. Son corps, que des guides ont dégagé, a été ramené à Grindelwald.’

Peter Millns was just into the second year of his PhD with Z Kopal, helping to methodically photograph the Moon through clear skies. The detailed photo-map was used by NASA for the first moon landing and Kopal published his and other photographs in a classic book: *A New Photographic Atlas of the Moon* in 1971.