



UWC returns Lord Mountbatten antiquity to the IET

Announcement - June 2018

On 11th June 2018, at the Institution of Engineering and Technology's (IET) annual engineering lecture in honour of the Earl Mountbatten of Burma, a groundbreaking piece of technology from the 20th century, presented to Lord Mountbatten in 1965, returns to its original home at the IET.



From left to right: Dr Hayaatun Sillem (Chief Executive, Royal Academy of Engineering), Nick Winser (President of IET), Tim Knatchbull, Nigel Fine (CEO of IET) and Jens Waltermann (Executive Director, UWC).

The *Travel Master Dictaphone* machine, in a leather case, was presented to Earl Mountbatten of Burma on 24 June 1965 by the Institute of Electronic and Radio Engineers (IERE) on the occasion of its 40th anniversary dinner at the Savoy Hotel in London. Lord Mountbatten, a former Fleet Wireless Officer in the Royal Navy, became a member of the IERE in 1935. He had been Vice President, Vice Patron and twice President of the IERE. He commented at the dinner that the dictaphone had been designed and patented by a member of the IERE, forerunner of the IET.

Lord Mountbatten extensively used the dictaphone late in his life working as Chair of the United World Colleges International (UWC), a movement of 17 residential international schools and educational programmes around the globe making education a force for peace and a sustainable future. When Lord Mountbatten was tragically assassinated in 1979, the dictaphone stayed with UWC.

Following the presentation by Lord Mountbatten's grandson, Tim Knatchbull, the dictaphone will now be housed in IET's exhibition *100 Objects that Changed the World*, marking the continued close collaboration between the two organisations. HRH The Duke of Edinburgh who, like his uncle Lord Mountbatten, developed an early interest in the UWC movement is Senior Fellow of the Royal Academy of Engineering, which was represented at the ceremony by its Chief Executive Dr Hayaatun Sillem.

About the Institution of Engineering and Technology (IET)

The IET is one of the world's largest engineering institutions with over 168,000 members in 150 countries. It is also the most multidisciplinary – to reflect the increasingly diverse nature of engineering in the 21st century. The IET is working to engineer a better world by inspiring, informing and influencing our members, engineers and technicians, and all those who are touched by, or touch, the work of engineers.

Press Contact

Christopher Knibb (Head of Communications)
+44 (0)1438 767226

About United World Colleges (UWC)

UWC has 17 schools and colleges (as well as several short educational programmes) on 4 continents, the majority of which focus on the 16-19 year-old age group: a time when young people's energy and idealism can be guided towards empathy, responsibility and lifelong action. UWC schools and colleges teach the International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma as their formal curriculum, a qualification that UWC played a major part in developing, while also emphasising the importance of experiential learning, community service and outdoor activities. UWC students are selected from over 160 countries worldwide, based on their demonstrated promise and potential.

Press Contact

Hannah Tumpel (Director of Communications and Engagement)
+44 (0) 207 269 7800