

# The Honorary Graduate: Hugh Robjohns

## The Orator: Martyn Harries

### **Hugh Robjohns is to be awarded the Honorary Degree of Doctor of Technology**

Hugh is a freelance technical-author and educator in the field of professional audio, and has been the Technical Editor of Sound On Sound Magazine – the world’s best recording technology title – for 22 years. He is responsible for generating a portion of the magazine’s content each month, as well as supporting his editorial colleagues in technical matters, and managing and contributing to the magazine’s web forums where he helps forum members with their technical questions every day. He also liaises regularly with equipment manufacturers around the world, advising on new products and assisting in their development.

After completing his early education at Exeter School, Hugh Joined the Royal Navy as an Engineering Officer and completed his initial training at BRNC Dartmouth before leaving to study Electrical and Electronic Engineering at the University of Wales (Swansea), graduating with honours in 1983. While there, Hugh became involved in the campus student radio station, serving as the Chief Engineer in his second year and Station Manager in his third year.

That experience led directly to a career with the BBC, initially joining as a video engineer but quickly transferring into Television Sound Operations. Over the following seven years Hugh progressed through specialisations including studio and location sound, outside broadcasts, and post-production. He also taught himself video editing and enjoyed several attachments as an on-line video editor working on both news and features programmes.

In 1991 Hugh was invited to become an Audio Operations Lecturer at the BBC’s technical training centre, Wood Norton, training operational staff across all levels of experience from the BBC and other international broadcasters. During this time he started writing articles for technical journals and consumer magazines, mostly explaining practical audio engineering techniques and the technical concepts behind them. Indeed, Hugh has acquired a reputation for being able to explain complicated technical concepts in a way which is both understandable and relevant to all readers, regardless of their experience. He also reviewed an enormous range of sound recording equipment, always managing to squeeze in useful nuggets about using the equipment effectively and creatively.

Hugh has been a member of both the Audio Engineering Society and the Institute of Professional Sound for over thirty years, and between 2000 and 2009 he served as the Editor of LineUp magazine, the Journal of the Institute of Professional Sound. He also continues to deliver bespoke professional audio training to clients, including the BBC, Sky Television and ITN, RTE and TG4 in Ireland, and other broadcasters in Estonia, Malaysia, South Africa, and Germany. In addition, he frequently delivers presentations and lectures at professional conferences and consumer-orientated events around the world, as well as at colleges and universities throughout England and Wales – including UWE.

The Honorary Degree is awarded in recognition of Hugh’s service to the public understanding of science and technology