Ed Cherry Reveals All at the Annual Dinner

The 2011 SMEEA dinner was held at the Monash University Club on Wednesday evening 3rd August. 75 graduates and staff attended – the highest ever for a SMEEA dinner. No doubt the drawcard was Ed Cherry who had taught or worked with nearly all of those present. His talk was entitled ‘My Life in Electronics’ and he started with describing the one valve radio circuit he had built at age 12 and ended by noting that in spite of changing technologies the fundamentals of analog electronics had not altered much through his career. He particularly commented on his time as a graduate student at Melbourne University, his experiences at Bell Labs, his time at Monash and his contributions at Tektronix.

He finally talked about his horrific experiences at Marysville on Black Saturday in 2009, when he and his wife survived the fire and saved their home.

There was a standing ovation at the conclusion of his talk.

Earlier in the evening Rick Alexander, the first recipient of the Lampard Prize, presented the winner for 2010, Vajira Amaratunga, with his medal and cheque.

Arthur Lowery, Head of Department, spoke about recent appointments and major research activities.

The class of 78 was well represented at the dinner. Shown are Geoff Lowe, Steve Cocks, Rowan McConchie, Ed Cherry, Doug Frazer, Rod Equid, Alan Bugeja, Phil Grasso, Kevin Smith and Colin Hales.