

# Edward William Palmer, 1942 – 2019

Born in Kettering in 1942, Edward (Ed) came from a farming family and developed an early interest in scientific and technical matters. He studied physics at Reading University and was recruited in the 1960s by the National Physical Laboratory (NPL) into the Scientific Civil Service as an Optical Metrologist in the Division of Mechanical and Optical Metrology. Apart from his own private projects, for example on his astronomical telescope, he contributed years of work on fine instrumentation at the NPL. In particular, he developed an innovative goniometer (angle measuring device) of exquisite accuracy based on contrarotating radial optical gratings. And he was much relied upon by his colleagues for expert advice on vibration measurement and control, often a crucial issue in his field.



Edward retired in 1995 and became an active member of the Retired Members' Section of the IOP (REMS). He was often to be seen at our events with Rodica Mager, his wife, whom he married after he retired. We look forward to seeing Rodica at future REMS events.

Tony Colclough

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