

In Memoriam

Peter Lloyd Hayward, born in 1930, was a Worthing man with close friends in almost every country in the world. His interest in music and the cinema, which came early in life, was quite practical. While still a schoolboy he worked as a projectionist at film shows for children and servicemen at the Rivoli and Dome cinemas.

After serving in the Royal Air Force he worked for John Bowers in the Bowers & Wilkins retail Radio and Hi Fi Shop at The Becket in Littlehampton Road. It was there in 1956 that he first met his future wife, Kathleen Mary Taylor, though they did not marry until she returned from Australia 15 years later.

Before long Bowers and Hayward were bursting with ideas for making loudspeakers that were more truthful and accurate than those available commercially at the time. Bowers was keen on experimenting with exotic theories such as the Ionophone transducer: Hayward was the practical force for the actual manufacture. They formed a perfect partnership.

Critical reaction to their early efforts was encouraging, and a legacy from their first ever customer made possible the founding of B&W Loudspeakers, one of the world's most prestigious manufacturers in the field today and a sustaining member of the AES. Their services to Export and to industry twice earned The Queen's Award, and B&W became a major employer in the area.

With the death of Bowers in 1987, Hayward relinquished his duties in charge of production while taking on the increasingly important links with the professional users who were now turning to B&W for monitor loudspeakers to meet the demands of the digital age and CDs.

Hayward now had time to give his services to the community, and with the refurbishment of the Connaught Rooms, the perfection of the present sound system can stand as a mark of



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his generosity. Of more importance has been his work on the memorial to John Bowers, whose untimely death from cancer affected him deeply.

His lifelong interest in film led him to build a cinema/studio onto his home in Storrington, and soon after he and Kathy were giving private showings of newly released films to local people, who in return made a contribution to fight cancer. B&W matches these contributions pound for pound. It is sad that he did not live to see the inauguration of "The Bowers Bus," which will bring yet more diagnostic and treatment services to the local community.

It was typical of Hayward that, despite poor health, on the firm's 25th Anniversary he presented superb demonstrations to agents and retailers from all over the world who had come to Sussex to hear the commemorative model whose circuits are of the purest silver.

On September 23, as the last of the visitors left the auditorium, he suffered a heart attack. He was rushed to King Edward VII Hospital at Midhurst but succumbed on arrival.

Connoisseurs of fine audio components and music lovers around the world owe him a huge debt.