

TWO HUNDRED YEARS OF RECOUNTING DIGITAL



200 years ago the first automatic calculator was conceived

70 years ago the world's first stored-program computer ran its first program

50 years ago, in October 1968, Royal Holloway admitted its first Computer Science students

10 years ago the first Android smartphone went on sale

The Computer Science Department invites you to celebrate our half-centenary by following the trail that leads from bronze digit wheels to the computer in your pocket.

In the Exhibition Space of the Emily Wilding Davison Building until November 30th 2018

Open every day 10.00-18.00 and 20.00 on Thursdays

This exhibition traces the development of computing ideas and technology since the 1820s through four themes:

The mechanical prehistory of computing

How were tables of logarithms made in the 19th century? See a steam driven calculator and a mechanical noughts and crosses machine along with a modern 3D printer.

#ilooklikeanengineer

Female participation in computing slumped in the 1960s as programming became seen as a technical profession, and again in the 1980s as the home computer revolution took hold. Can we reverse the trend?

Moore's Law from beginning to end

We have become used to computers getting faster and faster, as their internal components become smaller. This trend has now slowed and will stop soon because matter is granular, and we cannot reduce the width of a wire that is only a few atoms across. See how memory density has increased exponentially over 200 years.

Toys, games and deep learning

Leisure activities are now dominated by digital technologies. See examples of robots, games consoles and animations. Learn how the superfast hardware in games consoles has been harnessed to speed up training of artificial intelligence applications. Can you distinguish real-Obama from synthetic-Obama?

