

## TIGER TELEVISION and RADIO SIX

Reflections by Colin Dalziel

What Radio Six did in Ardrossan back in the late sixties and early seventies, Tiger Television did in Aberdeen at about the same time.

Together with a couple of school chums we set up a closed circuit TV studio called Tiger Television in the attic bedroom of my parents house and did occasional programmes to them and invited guests. All this was in glorious black and white, sorry monochrome, and the now long forgotten 405 line system.

In 1969 the BBC were doing a Sunday afternoon programme called "Hobbyhorse" fronted by Cliff Morgan, and we got Tiger TV featured on one their programmes (see left) which went out on 17th August 1969.



About a week later a letter came through the post re-directed from the BBC from a Mr Antony R Currie as Chairman of Radio Six, who I think might have been just a tad jealous that we got featured in the BBC programme, and not him!

Anyway we established contact, and for a few years exchanged tapes, magazine articles even visits.

Tiger TV's first "production" was back in the summer of 1968.

Programmes consisted of documentaries often featuring articles from the Geographic magazine, perhaps things we had been doing at school, and films (for which we borrowed a cine projector) This was interspersed with news bulletins, quizzes, home movies, and rather poor attempts at comedy I'm afraid!

The three of us at TIGER were more interested in the technical and engineering aspects of the station, and our presentation and production skills may have been cringe-worthy looking back on it, but it was definitely fun!

By late 1969 we had achieved a dozen "programme evenings" (as we called them) mostly during school holidays for obvious reasons, and we even went on a roadshow to a radio exhibition at the Beach Ballroom in Aberdeen, and later that year did an interview with the local MP (pictured right)



An elderly neighbour was interviewed about Aberdeen in bygone days, and we made a cine film for a documentary about the then thriving Aberdeen Fish Market involving getting out of bed and going down there at some ridiculous time in the morning to do the filming.

A programme journal seemed obligatory, though in truth a simple schedule of forthcoming programmes would have sufficed. "Tiger Times" was a handwritten

affair and several editions were created, but compared with the so professional (even back then) "RADIO NEWS" it was a poor relation.

The relationship with RADIO SIX blossomed around this period and in late March 1970, RADIO TELEVISION SIX was a joint venture held at RADIO SIX's Ardrossan location and featured two programme evenings with features contributed from both sides, RADIO SIX and TIGER.

Tony himself reciprocated with a visit to TIGER (see below) and met the three school boys (as we were then) behind the station.



TIGER TV went on to produce 18 programme evenings up until the end of 1970, and the co-operation and contribution of RADIO SIX was always strong in this period.

Tiger TV ceased at the end of 1970 with serious school work being required from the participants and by that time 405 lines black and white was looking seriously old fashioned!

I went on to study electronics and eventually got a posting with the then IBA in their transmitters department, whilst Tony capitalised on his excellent presenters voice and, well, the rest is history!

We still keep in touch from time to time, and have fond memories of these formative days when our hobby interests shaped what we were later to become.