

## Beams make Graham's day

**Award comes -  
20 years later!**

A Timperley scientist has been honoured for his pioneering research - two decades after the work was done

Metallurgist Graham Cliff and his colleague, Professor Gordon Lorimer, collected this year's presidential science awards from the Microbeam Analysis Society in Boston, last month. The men, who work at the Materials Science Centre at UMIST, analyse the makeup of metals by bombarding them with electrons.

"It was work that anyone else could have done at the time" Mr Cliff, aged 42, told SAM.

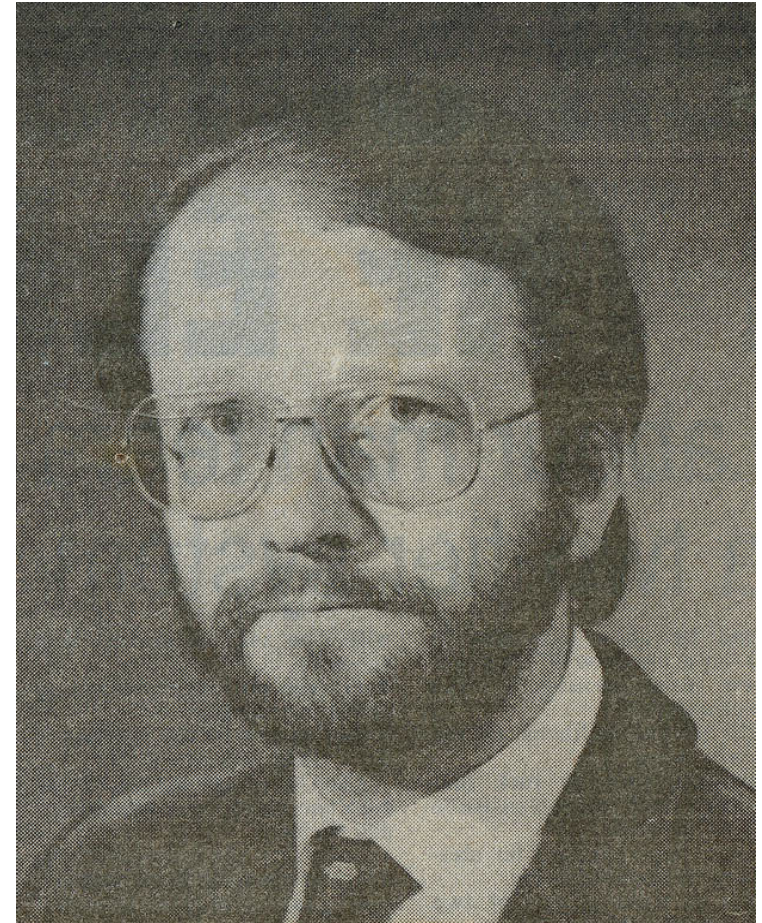
"Now everybody uses the technique."

Mr. Cliff, who lives in Raven Road, with his wife, is a former pupil of Sale Grammar School. He went on to study physics and electrical engineering at Manchester University and then took up a two-year apprenticeship in analytical electron microscopy, which, in his own words has now lasted 21 years.

During much of that time he has been involved in establishing techniques for the quantitative analysis of thin specimens, has been co-author of more than 60 papers dealing with the principles, practice and problems with AEM (Analytical Electron Microscopy) and has lectured in different countries. A modest man, he said, when pressed, "my peer group has a high opinion of me - I say that with some embarrassment but I was told that is how to define the situation. It is a little pool but I'm told that I'm a big fish to warrant this award."

"Now I plan to carry on at Manchester in developing the technique. We should be able to analyse as little as one atom soon and to discover its chemistry, which is very exciting for me."

As to gaining the award two decades later, he said "that's the way of things"!



Award winning Timperley scientist Graham Cliff (F. L.)