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Forty years is a lifetime in computing – so what’s changed?

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From the text: Congratulations to ‘Mathematics in School’ for notching up forty years as a leading journal in mathematics education. I am delighted to have been asked to write a personal review of the evolution of ICT in learning and teaching mathematics over that time – which more or less coincides with my career in education. There are three major themes in this short play. The first is innovation – the development of breakthrough technologies such as the valve, transistor, chip, and SIM. The second is application – the development of a wide range of products powered by those technologies. The third is education – the ways in which these products impact upon teaching and learning. The recently published Education White Paper suggests we have quite some way still to go to reach a happy ending.

Classification: U70 A30 D30

Keywords: history of mathematics education; history of computing; information and communication technology; educational media; media technology; computer as educational medium; hardware; computers; calculators; teaching aids; mathematical software; geometry software; computer algebra; spreadsheets; computer programming; graphical representations; educational software