



United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland Section

General Interest Lecture

## ***I, Cyborg***

by

**Professor Kevin Warwick**

(Cybernetics Department, University of Reading)

at 1845 on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> March 2003

The Royal Commonwealth Society, Northumberland Avenue, London,  
WC1

<[www.rcsint.org](http://www.rcsint.org)>

(opposite Nigerian Embassy)

### **Abstract**

As we look to the future, the possibility of machines appearing that are more intelligent than humans becomes more and more certain. But is this really likely? If so, what will it mean for humans? In this presentation Kevin Warwick looks at what intelligence in humans and machines actually means and investigates whether robot machines can really be intelligent. In recent years many scientists have pointed to a way in which humans might be able to stay in control of machines, no matter how intelligent they are. But this requires a human/machine symbiosis with the two entities physically linked together in order that humans can directly harness machine intelligence. In late 1998 Professor Warwick carried out a widely publicised experiment when a silicon chip transponder was surgically implanted into his arm. The results of this experiment are reported and a potential future with implant technology is considered. However, will it provide the answer hoped for? Now Kevin has carried out a further experiment, linking his nervous system directly to a computer, the aim being to realise extra sensory capabilities, thought as a new communication channel and possibly even a way to change emotions. But how far can we all go in this part human part machine form? Will the next evolutionary step mean that we all become cyborgs?

**Non-members of IEEE are welcome to attend this lecture**

All members of the IEEE are also invited to attend the AGM at 1800