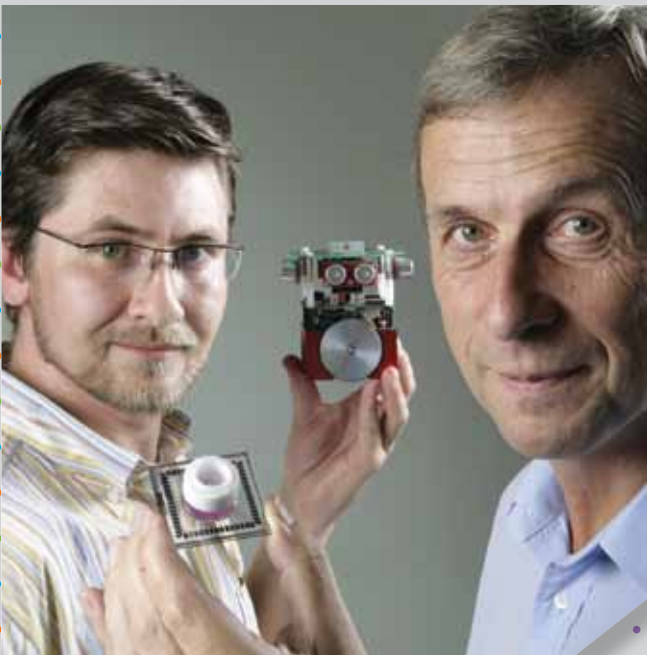


Some experts think this research has great potential...



'There is an enormous field here for having robots with biological brains. I think it's tremendously exciting, particularly when we need robots to interact and communicate with people - it opens up that opportunity.'

**Kevin Warwick**  
University of Reading



'Scientists want to be able to link activity in neurons with the complex behaviour we see in animals. We hope that Gordon may help us do this; when he moves left or right we can see exactly what's going on between his neurons.'

**Ben Whalley**  
University of Reading

But other experts have different views...



'I think it's very unlikely that we'll use the real biological material in machines in the future. More likely is that this work will allow us to learn new things about the biological material which we can reproduce in artificial systems.'

**Larry Bull**  
University of the West of England



'This research is part of a worrying trend about the use and mix of animals and machines. When you put brain tissue from an animal onto a robot, the robot does not feel pain, but the animal might, and that opens up a whole ethical minefield.'

**Noel Sharkey**  
University of Sheffield