

BUSH

jan 1978

TELEGRAPH



# BUSH

vol. 20 no. 2

# TELEGRAPH

the magazine of

# R&EL

wood lane



## Cover

Photo: "ALL AT SEA"  
by Alan Bangay

## Editorial Board

David Green  
Denis Groombridge  
Mike Hagger  
Richard Hammond  
Geoff Holder  
Ted Morrison  
Peter Revell



# Editorial

A large proportion of ordinary people, confronted with the word "student", can be relied upon to go into paroxysms of rage about extreme/militant, left/right-wing, Marxist/National Front, long-haired/punk, no-good/sponging layabouts. More rational observers are likely to blame the media for exaggerating the extent of unrest at our seats of learning, and point to the continuing stream of good, level-headed, solid, hard-working people who emerge from higher education in the country.

At Wood Lane we have a long tradition of Company - sponsored sandwich course and day-release students who come firmly within the vision of the rational observer, and who have successfully completed courses which have been demanding both academically and in terms of their own freedom. Although patterns of higher education have changed in recent years we still enjoy, along with the rest of BICC, a strong commitment by the Company to further education and, as far as we can judge, an excellent response from the younger members of staff to the opportunities offered.

It is therefore sad to have to ask what has happened to the one occasion in the year when the efforts of successful students are openly recognised and rewarded, and when their colleagues can congratulate them. We refer to the Prize-Giving ceremony. At the time of writing we know of no arrangements to hold this event, even though we are into the second term of the current academic year. We don't recollect the event taking place at all last year.

(continued on page 2)

The total number of students is probably much lower than in former years, but we would be disappointed if the ceremony were to be abandoned. Perhaps the time has come to revise the format of the event and institute a less formal approach. One way would be to have the presentations before a Technical Society lecture.

Whatever happens the event should not die by default. Our students deserve recognition once a year. They are, after all, people and not just Government Training Grants.

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### David Green

Observant readers, of whom we have many, will have noticed in last month's issue that the six veteran greybeards had been quietly joined by David Green, the not-so-veteran chemist from the 1st floor in Rutherford. We welcome David to the Editorial Board and hope that other transfusions of new blood will quickly follow.

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## Obituary

It is with regret that we learn of the death of Mr Alf Spittle who retired in 1974 after seventeen years service.

Alf came to Wood Lane in 1956, initially to manufacture the highly successful model traction equipment used to develop improved designs of BICC Railway Overhead Electrification Systems.

His considerable reputation as a model maker had already been established and his handiwork can still be seen in many places, including the Science Museum at South Kensington. With his highly individual skills Alf produced countless items great and small for the benefit of BICC. These included a model of the first superconducting cable and a collapsible model of the Emley Moor TV mast which was used to help investigate the cause of failure.

Alf was also very willing to assist on personal technical matters and his understanding of the intricacies of the transistor radio was greatly appreciated by his many friends throughout Wood Lane.

We send our deepest sympathies to his wife and daughter.

# Personnel News

## WELCOME TO:-

Mr Stephen Grey-Wilson, Mr Angelo Sanzone and Mr Peter Wardle all of whom join the Control Engineering Department as trainee technicians.

Mr Thomas Currie who joins the Physics Department as a technician.

## FAREWELL TO:-

Gwyn Roberts of the Metallurgy Department who left at the end of December, after 14 years service, to return to his native land of Wales.

David Wright of the Control Engineering Department who left at the end of December after 4½ years service.

## TRANSFERS

Norman Fairey has been transferred on secondment from the Metallurgy Department to the Conform Project.

# Diary of Events

DATE	EVENT	FOR INFORMATION
Jan 27th	Last day for entries to Snooker Tournament	Keith Elder
Feb 6th	Last day for contributions to Bush Telegraph	Editorial Board
Feb 10th	Valentine's Dance	Executive Council
Feb 13th	Sea Angling Trip	Peter Walton
Feb 15th	Film Show - 'The Andromeda Strain'	Annette Mattock
To be announced	Technical Society Lecture IV S. Verne 'Polymer Programmes and Influences throughout BICC'	John Heggie
Feb 20th	Publication Day for Bush Telegraph	Editorial Board
Mar 15th	Film Show - 'Themroc'	Annette Mattock
Apr 29th	Sea Angling Trip	Peter Walton
<u>Regular Events</u>		
Tuesdays	Badminton	Vic Banks
Thursdays	Badminton	Vic Banks
	Air Pistol Shooting	Denis Groombridge

# Letters to the Editor

9th January 1978

Dear Sirs,

Hearty congratulations on a magnificent revival of the Bush Telegraph. May we, on behalf of the Executive Council of the Athletic & Social Club, express our thanks and admiration for the splendid work that has obviously gone into this 'first' issue.

Alas, the Executive Council has come in for a bit of stick from Messrs Walker and Morrison which deserves a reply. While we would not argue with the details of their letter, we would refute the criticism that section activities have suffered as a result of these procedural lapses. Apart from a situation in one section where administrative complications external to Wood Lane may have hampered a new venture, we have heard of no instance where the activities of any section have been in any way curtailed. In fact, on the credit side, during the past two years the Council has been very glad to respond to proposals for the setting up of four new sections, which now appear to be flourishing. The budget of the Club has been substantially increased, and in some cases sections advised to increase their own budget requests (would Father Christmas please take note).

Sectional activities depend entirely on the personal initiatives of the people concerned, and it is our own view that there has been an increase in such activities during the past year. What is something of a disappointment, however, is that, despite the extra money available and a willingness to support new ventures, there is still only a small part of the membership actively involved in the Club.

Long may the Bush Telegraph continue to provide a forum for people's views. Direct contact with a member of the Executive Council, however, could provide a quicker way of getting things done.

Yours, etc.

P.C. McNeill

J. Heggie

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## Bright Ideas

The New Markets Technology Panel has now been in existence for twelve months. Awareness of it has been very slow in filtering throughout R and EL. Hopefully this article will speed this process and enlighten staff as to its objectives.

### New Markets Technology Panel

Private companies in the Western World have to grow to survive. In a prolonged home market recession, this growth is achieved partly by increasing exports, so increasing output of existing products and services, and partly by diversification, to add volume from new products and services. New products and services come from acquisition, both of companies and of technologies, and from development of new technologies.

In the current home market situation, BICC is expanding exports and diversifying.

So the question is asked "What about developing some new products and services for BICC and the R&EL"?

In setting the New Market Technology Panel consisting of JB, JDE, DSM, PCMcN and Mike Rutter of BICC Industrial Products Ltd it is hoped to stimulate the development of new products and services, particularly for BICC Industrial Products Ltd.

The function of the panel is to consider proposals and then, for each selected proposal, organise the work to obtain enough information for an adequate business potential appraisal.

You can make proposals, for new products and services, to the Panel. Ideas outside your own R&EL area you can offer direct to the Secretary of the Panel. No forms, no formality, just write, phone or pay him a visit. Ideas within your own R&EL area will reach the Panel via your Section Leader/ Departmental Head/Manager.

Proposals for novel systems are as welcome as ideas for novel items of hardware. While Patent and Know-How potentials are very desirable, they are not essential.

They don't have to be your own ideas, there is no not-invented-here barrier.

Within our personal limitations, we will try to give each proposal fair, reasonable and early consideration. Also, we will try to provide understandable reasons for not proceeding with a proposal. We will do our best to keep you informed.

For information and advice contact:

John Endacott        393  
Secretary,  
New Markets Technology Panel

Remember. Ideas not covered by your own R and EL area can be sent direct to John.

#### Ed. Comment

Reference to Joe Kerr's Almanac (August) obviously indicates that somebody, other than John, expects a good response.

# Children's Christmas Party

December 17th saw 120 children descend on Wood Lane for the Annual Christmas Party. After pulling crackers and destroying what seemed like an endless supply of balloons, the kids settled down to enjoy that evergreen example of marital bliss, the Punch & Judy show. That over and undaunted by the scenes of violence they had viewed, the children moved to the fourth floor and rapidly demolished a repast of sandwiches, jellies, blancmanges, ice cream, peanuts and crisps, not necessarily in that order, the whole washed down with large amounts of orange or lemon juice.

The food was followed by a film show and then the high spot of the afternoon, the assault on Father Christmas, who after a long fought battle managed to distribute presents to all the children.

The party was as usual a great success and our thanks must go to Eileen King (now in her 27th year of parties), Viv Shepherd and all the girls in the Typing Pool, Annette Mattock and the Film Section, Roger Roberts for liaising with Reindeerland for Father Christmas to put in his appearance, and everyone else who helped.

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# Pensioners Christmas Lunch

The annual Pensioners Christmas Lunch was held on Thursday 15th December and was attended by 27 retired Wood Lane employees and 27 current employees. At first glance it was difficult to tell the difference.

After pre-lunch drinks a splendid buffet was provided and much exchange of news and views took place during the eating of it.

In his short welcoming address, Mr J. Banks noted that this was the largest gathering of its kind for some years and hoped that this trend would continue. He outlined the current work programme of the Company and spoke briefly about future plans.

Mr E.H. Reynolds replied in his own inimitable fashion, thanking Mr Banks and the Company on behalf of the assembled guests for their hospitality.



Scenes from recent Wood Lane events show (above - photo by Stuart Castle) an air of juvenile anticipation as Father Christmas prepares to hand out another present, and (below - photo by Bob Maidlow) pre-lunch hospitality and gossip between pensioners and their Wood Lane friends and former colleagues.





# Technical Society

The second lecture in the Technical Society series took place on Wednesday 7th December when Mr Alan Arnold spoke on "Detection of Discharges by UV Photography", and once again an attentive gathering of 60-70 members of staff severely stretched the seating capacity in the Main Hall.

Alan began by reminding everyone that they were all probably familiar with the "blue glow" of corona discharge which occurred with high-voltage overhead power lines, and which was especially noticeable in wet weather. Such discharges interfere with Post Office, TV and radio communications, and cause substantial loss of power in the power lines themselves. Many years ago it was recognised that an optical method of detecting discharges was desirable. A large volume of spectroscopic and photographic work by Roger Millward, Norman Davis and Norman Strong resulted in the identification of a peak emission in the near-UV region. Photographs of discharges could then be taken with a suitable camera and film, but with the disadvantage of no instant feedback. This problem was overcome by adapting, with a suitable lens system, a Marconi low-light level TV camera which had been developed for use in the X-ray work in medical researches. A demonstration of the technique in the HV laboratory resulted in an immediate decision by the Board to purchase our own equipment with video-recording facility.

A Wood Lane made film showed how effective the technique was at detecting the discharges, and the facility was demonstrated live in the Hall by Alan and his staff.

During a lively series of questions Alan regretted that the observations had not led to great improvements in the design of insulators nor had any significant commercial use been made of the equipment. This may well have reflected the very high cost of the equipment six years ago, and further progress may now be made as the price of the camera was now 10 times lower than 6 years ago! Nevertheless valuable experience had been gained, and outside bodies including the CEGB and BBC had used the technique.

Mr Peter Gregory proposed a vote of thanks at the end of the meeting.

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## For Sale

Hillman Imp; 'G' reg; needs new clutch;  
MOT - May 1st; Taxed - Oct. 1st.

£175 - o.n.o.

Contact:- Adrian Bodimeade (Tel. 243)

# The Times is ...

Not too much response to this one; perhaps we're not very good at looking at ourselves. However Margaret Kingston suggests that,

"Bush Telegraph is read by people who know that they could run the country blindfold, singlehanded, in their spare time, with their hands tied behind their backs....."

if someone would give them the job number".

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## That Brown Fox—Again!

Marginally better response here - two replies, both from Arthur Boardman. In summary Arthur .....

- (a) Can't translate the "cwm fjord" thing (he's either the only one on site who can't or the only one honest enough to admit it!)
- (b) Can't type fast enough.
- (c) Can't do better than a sentence with 26 letters. (How about cheating, Arthur, and considering the diphthong!)
- (d) Can't bring himself to mention the possibility of a foreign language.

He has however offered an improvement (?) on the 30-letter "quartz sphinx",

"I vow big Jock fled my quartz sphinx" (29) or the imperative form,

"Vow big Jock fled my quartz sphinx" (28).

No prizes for Arthur this time round, but as a consolation we offer him the translation (or so we are reliably informed) of the "cwm fjord" thing. It is,

"The puzzlement of a mystic at finding graffiti on the walls of a small Welsh valley".

Also, we came across a 32-letter sentence which may be capable of improvement,

"Pack my box with five dozen liquor jugs".

# Leadergram

The author and book title were David Niven, "Bring on the Empty Horses", and the answers to the individual clues were as follows:-

- |                   |                    |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| A. Dance Band     | Q. Nuclear Energy  |
| B. After the Ball | R. Turkey Cock     |
| C. Village        | S. Hello Dolly     |
| D. Illiteracy     | T. Eventful        |
| E. Denature       | U. Enshrined       |
| F. Newsweek       | V. Maltese         |
| G. Inebriate      | W. Padding         |
| H. Vegetable      | X. Tens and Units  |
| I. Enthalpy       | Y. Young Hopeful   |
| J. New Years Eve  | Z. Holy Ghost      |
| K. Brazil Nuts    | A'. Off Loaded     |
| L. Rock Group     | B'. Roast Goose    |
| M. Ice Cube       | C'. Scotch Whisky  |
| N. New Wave       | D'. Easy Beat      |
| O. Garrisoned     | E'. Saint Nicholas |
| P. On the Hoof    |                    |

Transferring all these letters to the square resulted in the following passage from the book:-

"Sooner or later every well known actor, particularly those specializing in tough roles, received a drunken shove in the back, and heard the inevitable challenge: "Okay, sonny boy! Let's see how tough you are!" Gable, Cagney and Bogart perfected sensible and peaceful ways of ridding themselves of these nuisances, but Flynn would gleefully wade in to the attack".

Thank you! to all those who included (favourable) comments with their solutions - a little encouragement goes a long way.

Fourteen all-correct entries were received (was it too easy, then?) and the first name out of the hat was that of Glynn Stainthorpe, Polymers Department, who receives the £2 prize.

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## Musical Quiz - Apology

We had a nasty feeling that, despite our every effort, a gremlin would creep into the last issue. It did, in the form of a missing horizontal line, 8 down and 10 across, in the grid for the Musical Quiz. We think most people spotted it - to those who didn't, sorry, hope it didn't spoil your fun.

# Poets Corner

## EVEN BLANKER VERSE

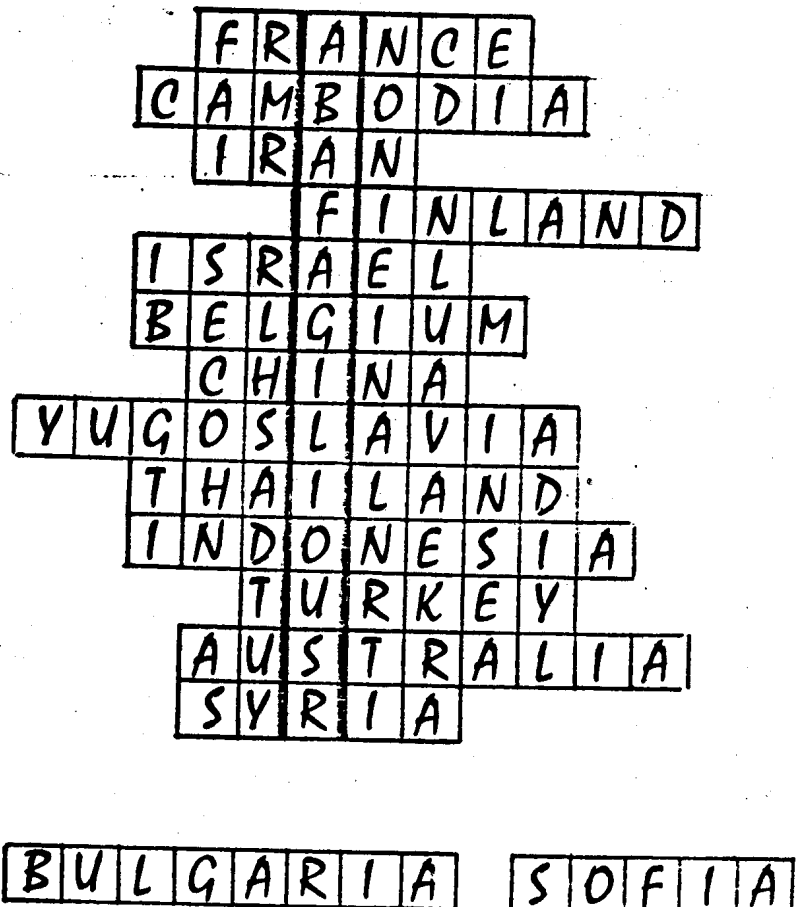
Now it's time for issue two  
We have to think of something new,  
The jubilee is over now  
So drop your flags and knit your brow  
And bend your brains to contemplate  
What lies ahead in '78.  
But January's slipping by  
We'll soon have horrid February  
The shortest month it's said to be  
It never seems like that to me.  
But when it's gone March brings the spring  
With lambs and daffs. and everything  
And Easter eggs and longer days  
And plans for summer holidays.  
But nonetheless we have to state  
We must work hard in '78  
So roll up your sleeves and to it mate!

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## Round The World

The answers to the Round the World quiz are given in the grid.

7 correct answers were received, and the winner is Arthur Boardman. Congratulations.



# The History of Electric Wires and Cables

PART I: INTRODUCTION AND EARLY TELEGRAPH  
CABLES (1730-1816)- CONTINUED

By R.M. Black

## Sir Francis Ronalds

The next development of importance, primarily in the development of telegraph systems but also, indirectly, of the power transmission systems in later years, was the eight-mile telegraph circuit set up by Francis Ronalds (1788-1873) in the garden of his home in Hammersmith (now known as Kelmscott House in the Upper Mall). This was described in some detail in a small book that he had published in 1823 entitled "Description of a electrical telegraph and of some other electrical apparatus". From this it is clear that Ronalds' main interest was to establish whether fluid in its static form could be made to travel over long distances without undue delay. For this purpose he set up two wooden frames twenty yards apart between which he strung wire backwards and forwards to form a continuous length of just under eight miles. The wire passed through loops of silk at each of the 37 hooks on the 19 bars on the two frames. The two ends of the wire were attached to pith ball electrometers. "When the line was charged by connection to a leydenjar, the electrometers at the near and far ends diverged at exactly the same moment and on discharge, by being touched by the hand, collapsed as simultaneously".

In subsequent experiments Ronalds introduced an underground section of cable as follows:

He dug a trench 4 ft deep, 175 yards long and in it he laid a trough of wood two inches square and coated with pitch. He placed lengths of thick glass tube in the trough, jointing the lengths with soft wax surrounded by an outer glass sleeve. Finally he drew in a length of copper wire. The joints were the first examples on record of expansion joints since they allowed the tubes to move in the sleeves as they expanded and contracted with variations in temperature. After a final application of pitch to the trough the trench was filled in with earth. Through this line Ronalds managed to send signals using a ingenious system of synchronised clockwork dials. These were constructed by attaching a light circular plate to the seconds arbor of a clock. The plate was divided into twenty equal sections, each section carrying a letter, figure or instruction. A second cover plate was placed in front of this in such a manner that it could be rotated by hand when required and which had a narrow segment cut away so that it showed one of the sections of the underplate. To preclude the need for constant watching of the receiving station, a gas pistol was fired by a contact connected with the signal "PREPARE" on the disc system.



The system apparently worked quite well and Ronalds offered it to the Admiralty as an alternative to the existing Semaphore method which had the disadvantage that it became useless in foggy weather. Unfortunately, the Admiralty were very fixed in their ways and rejected the offer outright without apparently inspecting the installation at Hammersmith as the following correspondence, although incomplete, shows:

Mr. Ronalds to the Admiralty

Upper Mall,  
Hammersmith.

July 11th, 1816

"Mr. Ronalds presents his respectful compliments to Lord Melville and takes the liberty of soliciting his Lordship's attention to a mode of conveying telegraphic intelligence with great rapidity, accuracy and certainty, in all states of the atmosphere, either at night or in the day, and at small expense, which has occurred to him while performing some electrical experiments. Having been at some pains to ascertain the practicability of the scheme, it appears to Mr. Ronalds, and to a few gentlemen by whom it has been examined, to possess several important advantages over any species of telegraph hitherto invented, and he would be much gratified by an opportunity of demonstrating these advantages to Lord Melville by an experiment which he has no doubt would be deemed decisive, if it should be perfectly agreeable and consistent with his Lordship's engagements to honour Mr. Ronalds with a call, or he would be very happy to explain more particularly the nature of the contrivance if Lord Melville could conveniently oblige him by appointing an interview".

There was apparently no reply, that has survived to this letter but in answer to a further communication from Mr. Ronalds we have:

Secretary of the Admiralty to Mr. Francis Ronalds

Admiralty Office,  
5th August (1816)

"Mr. Barrow presents his compliments to Mr. Ronalds, and acquaints him, with reference to his letter of the 3rd instant, that telegraphs of any kind are now wholly unnecessary and that no other than the one now in use will be adopted".

Mr. Ronalds, a gentleman of private means, was later to become the Director of the Royal Observatory at Kew for many years, to receive a Knighthood and to bequeath his fine collection of historical books and pamphlets to the Institution of Electrical Engineers.

# Section Reports

## SEA ANGLING SECTION

The 1977 season has finished with all the competitions open to the last. The trip arranged for the 6th December was cancelled due to inclement weather so another was hastily arranged for 28th December. This was also called off due to reasons of weather.

So the results of the competitions are as follows:-

### The Golden Pollack

Awarded to the person who lands the highest weight of fish in any four trips. (Not counting Mackerel and Pouting).

1st	A.J. Bangay	38.25 lbs.
2nd	A. Cole	34.00 lbs.
3rd	E.B. Nalon	29.75 lbs.

### Specimen Fish

Calculated as a percentage of weight listed in ABU.

1st	A. Cole	- Spurdog	11.5 lbs.	- 87%
2nd	G.C. Taylor	- Bream	2.25 lbs.	- 73%
3rd	A.J. Bangay	- Bream	2.00 lbs.	- 64%

### Specious Award

Awarded for the highest number of Species landed.

1st	C.A. Platt	11 species
2nd	R.G. Maidlow	10 species
3rd equal	A.J. Bangay, E.B. Nalon	9 species

in total 16 species were landed.

### Heaviest Fish Landed

1st	A. Cole	11.5 lbs	Spurdog
2nd	A. Cole	8.5 lbs	Pollack
3rd	P.T.J. Walton	3.5 lbs	Pollack

The 1978 season is now in full swing. The dates for trips are listed below. Anyone interested please contact P. Walton on 323 for further information. The section has for sale, in any length, some nylon line rated at 26 lbs B.S.

Thursday 19th January  
Monday 13th February  
Saturday 29th April  
Monday 15th May  
Thursday 15th June

Monday 10th July  
Monday 14th August  
Monday 16th October  
Monday 18th December

P.T.J. WALTON  
Section Secretary

## FILM SECTION

The next show in the current season is on Wednesday 15th February and features a science fiction film THE ANDROMEDA STRAIN, produced and directed by Robert Wise, from the book by Michael Crichton. Of the inhabitants of a small town in the desert, only two survive the return to Earth of a satellite, which has been collecting organisms in space: an old man and a baby. Four hand-picked scientists struggle in a secret medical research centre, with the aid of a computer, to find a means of eradicating the hitherto unknown virus which has turned the blood of the rest of the population to powder. This tense drama is accompanied by an amusing animated film, FLATLAND, which concerns a society peopled by two-dimensional shapes, in which an attempt to describe the possibility of a third dimension, height, is condemned as heresy.

As many will know, the film section as a body is a member of the B.F.I. and hence the National Film Theatre. We hold a corporate membership card which is available to all members of the social club to obtain tickets for the N.F.T., and kept by myself. A summary of the programme for the remainder of January is shown below; details for February should be available in the last week of the month.

Hope to see you at the next film show.

Annette Mattock

21 Sat	NFT1	3.30	The Lady from Musashino	EC	28 Thu	NFT2	8.30	Robert and Fanny	EST
21 Sat	NFT1	7.30	Magic Lantern Show (all seats bookable at £1.20p) (J.)		26 Thu	NFT3	8.30	Mizoguchi Seminar (Admission free - no pre-booking)	
21 Sat	NFT2	4.00	Bud Abbott and Lou Costello in Hollywood (all seats bookable at 50p) (J.)		27 Fri	NFT1	6.30	Empress Yang Kwai-Fei	EST
21 Sat	NFT2	6.15 8.30	Man Hunt		27 Fri	NFT1	8.30	Taboo	EST
22 Sun	NFT1	3.45	Marat-Sade		27 Fri	NFT1	11.15 p.m.	Pandemonium	EST
22 Sun	NFT1	6.00	The Charge of the Light Brigade (J.)		27 Fri	NFT2	6.15 8.30	The Informer (1929)	PA
22 Sun	NFT1	6.40	Catch-22		28 Sat	NFT1	3.30	The Servant	
22 Sun	NFT2	4.00	Bud Abbott and Lou Costello in Hollywood (all seats bookable at 50p) (J.)		28 Sat	NFT1	6.45	The Lion in Winter	
22 Sun	NFT2	6.05 8.30	Hangmen Also Die		28 Sat	NFT1	8.15	The Great Gatsby	
23 Mon-					28 Sat	NFT2	3.30	Captain from Castile (all seats bookable at 50p) (J.)	
27 Fri	NFT1	2.30 daily	SHERLOCK JUNIOR (J.)		28 Sat	NFT2	6.15	Egg! Egg? A Hard-Boiled Story	EST
23 Mon	NFT1	6.30	Paradise Place	EST	28 Sat	NFT2	8.30	Near and Far Away	EST
23 Mon	NFT1	8.45	Games of Love and Loneliness	EST	29 Sun	NFT1	4.15	Street of Shame	EST
23 Mon	NFT2	6.15 8.30	Gion Festival Music	EC	29 Sun	NFT1	6.30 8.45	Tales of the Pale & Silvery Moon After the Rain	EST
24 Tue	NFT1	6.00	Life of O-Haru	EST	29 Sun	NFT2	3.30	Captain from Castile (all seats bookable at 50p) (J.)	EST
24 Tue	NFT1	8.45	Tales of the Pale & Silvery Moon After the Rain	EST	29 Sun	NFT2	6.15	Robert and Fanny	EST
24 Tue	NFT2	6.15	Near and Far Away	EST	29 Sun	NFT2	8.30	Egg! Egg? A Hard-Boiled Story	EST
24 Tue	NFT2	8.30	The Last Adventure	EST	30 Mon-				
25 Wed	NFT1	6.20	Sansho the Bailiff	EST	31 Tue	NFT1	2.30 daily	DREAMS THAT MONEY CAN BUY	
25 Wed	NFT1	8.45	A Woman of Rumour	EC	30 Mon	NFT1	6.30	New Tales of the Taira Clan	EST
25 Wed	NFT2	6.15 8.30	Bang!	EST	30 Mon	NFT1	8.45	Gion Festival Music	EC
26 Thu	NFT1	6.30	The Crucified Lovers	EST	30 Mon	NFT2	6.15 8.30	Empress Yang Kwai-Fei	EST
26 Thu	NFT1	8.45	New Tales of the Taira Clan	EST	31 Tue	NFT1	6.30	The Love of Sumako, the Actress	EC
26 Thu	NFT2	6.15	The Last Adventure	EST	31 Tue	NFT1	8.45	The Crucified Lovers	EST
					31 Tue	NFT2	6.00 8.30	Kenji Mizoguchi: The Life of a Film Director	EST/EC

## FILM MAGAZINES

The Film Section circulates a number of magazines on films and filming. The subscription for 1978 is 40p. If you wish to have your name added to the circulation list contact Tom Ruben (212).

## BADMINTON SECTION

### American Handicap Doubles Tournament

The final group was played on December 8th. The results are shown below and it's congratulations to Dennis Cooper (yet again!) and Dave Martin who just managed to pip Vic Banks and Chris Butlin on the post. Contrary to rumour, it's not true that Dennis is holding a future Wine Tasting at his abode when he has enough stainless steel goblets!

#### AGGREGATE SCORES

1st	Dennis Cooper & Dave Martin	84
2nd	Vic Banks & Chris Butlin	82
3rd	Denis Groombridge & Glenys Derrick	72
4th	Tom Bonikowski & Sandra McCormick	55

We are indebted to our illustrious and impartial Sports Correspondent from the Far East (where he has seen badminton being played at the highest level, so who better?) for his comments and report of the final.

-----  
Badminton is a funny game.

In some countries it is played out in the open air, presumably it has something to do with the weather; but then quite a few other activities also take place in the open air, these too are usually more conveniently organised indoors in this country. Like darts, or billiards.

It must have something to do with the weather; well fancy trying for a double top in a force five or playing for "in-off" when the baize is barely dry after a quick spring shower. Perhaps that's why the pockets have holes in them, and not just where the ball goes in, otherwise they would soon fill up with rain and in goes the ball and it's Archimedes shouting 'Eureka' all over again,

However it doesn't stop our national game being played outdoors. Or football for that matter or even tennis. Now that is a proper game. It could be considered as the authentic version of which badminton is only the substitute. In other words badminton is a sort of toy tennis; to be played by those who are not hardy enough to brave the hazards of an English winter (or summer) or who do not have the energy to cover the full sized court.

The curious thing about the game, badminton that is, which does give it an intriguing aspect for some is that, to play the game and win, needs an extraordinary amount of luck and very little skill. Especially at club level. Really. Anyone can win, for example this Club's tournament. ~~Slip V. Banks a fiver.~~

Take this years final, O.K. Tom Bon really was trying, but then he had Sandra to keep him company - so it's off for an early shower for him. Groomers had the hardest handicap (well serves him right for having Glenys - you can't have everything) and found the court getting larger as the evening wore on. Banks and Butlin didn't give anything away - but then they never do, do they? Actually they played above their handicap and were unlucky not to win - that's luck coming in you see? So we are left with DC and DM - all the luck, that must be why they won, of course.

HOT AIR .....!

"It is destiny without destination  
It is pointlessness which gives great purpose  
It is enchanting  
It is funny  
It is idiotic  
It is supreme  
It cannot last and yet endures

There is a greatness about it which then becomes  
cowpats and wet grass at the landing.

There is a transformation, a leap from earth, and  
then a tangle of ropework and laughter and unrelenting earth.

There is also a fear, and sudden unwelcome sounds  
can be most loud in that silent world a mile above land.

The ropes are inaudible on earth; up there they  
talk with authority.

The balloon's fabric is a lowly stuff until it is  
filled and buoyant; and then it is recreated into something  
to transport you.....".

Care to join our proposed new section?

Phone Tom Bonikowski (261)  
Alex Taylor (Alperton)  
Derry Moore (Alperton)

(With apologies to Antony Smith)

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GENEALOGY SECTION

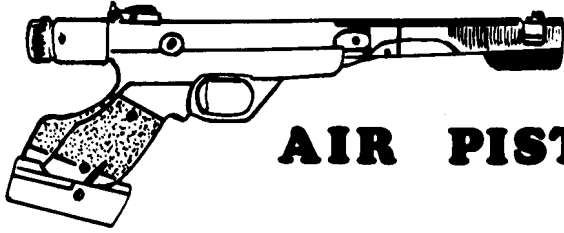
Contrary to earlier information will members please  
note that the Census Records are still in Portugal Street.  
The latest information is that they will move to Chancery Lane  
"in the first half of 1978". Further details from Mike Hagger  
(208).

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SEEN ELSEWHERE

Einstein rules relatively OK?  
Amnesia rules ... er ... um;  
The law of the excluded middle either rules or does  
not rule OK?  
ASTIGMATISM RULES OK?  
Absolute zero rules OOK.  
James Bond rules, OOK?





# AIR PISTOL SHOOTING



Member of

Shooting Averages at 5.1.78

Pos.		Ave.	Pos.		Ave.
1	Ian Fennemore	46.0	6	Nigel Donovan	31.0
2	Joe Lou	42.3	7	Roger Roberts	28.9
3	Denis Groombridge	40.5	8	Graham Taylor	28.3
4	Stefan Verne	39.9	9	Tom Dore	24.8
5	Bob Maidlow	37.1	10	Roy Fraser	22.2

Ian Fennemore is still well in front on the average table and in fact scored the first possible (i.e. 50 out of 50) for which a small prize was awarded. This was duly spent at the bar for a round of drinks (after the shooting of course). Denis Groombridge, Bob Maidlow or Ian Fennemore will be pleased to give information to any prospective shooters.

## SNOOKER SECTION

Please turn to back page.

# Poets Corner II

## THE INCOMPLETE SEA ANGLER

What possesses a man to leave a warm bed  
 At four o'clock in the morn,  
 To drive sixty miles  
 With his face wreathed in smiles  
 To the coast, rendezvousing at dawn.

To climb down a twenty foot vertical quay  
 Which is covered in seaweed and shells,  
 And onto the deck,  
 Of a clapped-out old wreck,  
 Somewhat tatty, with manifold smells.

To relish the thought of a primitive day  
 With the temperature just on the freeze,  
 No stove or bunk beds,  
 Neither rest room nor heads,  
 And no shelter to keep out the breeze.

To chug out to sea in a fresh south-west wind  
Without any cabin to sit in,  
To stand for eight hours  
In the snow, hail or showers,  
Clad in woolies, long johns and an oilskin.

To stand for eight hours is a bit of a boast  
In a boat that keeps rolling and dipping,  
Its deck thick in scales,  
Bloody fish heads and tails,  
More a question of gripping or slipping.

To run the grave risk that the stomach will churn  
As the sea begins sinking and swelling,  
To grin and not squirm,  
At the sight of a worm  
When the old rubby dubby starts smelling.

To wait endless time with a rod in the hand  
And a line hanging over the side,  
To hope, even pray,  
That today is the day,  
A big cod takes the bait on the tide.

To munch on a crust all soggy and flat  
Held in fingers disgustingly smelly,  
To suffer the pain,  
As it comes onto rain,  
Of a large fishing hook through the welly.

To long for the feel of a knock on the rod  
From a bass, giant turbot or conger,  
To strike at the bite,  
Of a shark in full flight,  
Is a dream that grows bigger and stronger.

To shout out with joy when the rod bends around  
Nearly doubled up under the strain,  
To hope for a skate,  
That's a hell of a weight,  
Not just seaweed and rocks once again.

To stay calm when the line's inextricably caught  
On a rusty old wreck or a boulder,  
To smile and not swear,  
When the fish of the year,  
Slips the hook and so lives to grow older.

What possesses a man to act in this way  
Is a thing that's too hard to explain,  
But one fact's for sure,  
He goes back for some more,  
Over and over and over again.

Alan Bangay

Dedicated to my friends in the Sea Angling Section.

# Pensioners Corner

Our "working" readers may like to know that all Wood Lane pensioners received a copy of the Christmas BT together with a letter asking them if they would like to receive the magazine on a regular basis.

We have been delighted to hear from so many of our former colleagues in response to our letter. Below are some extracts from what they had to say.

"Many thanks for sending me the Bush Telegraph. I congratulate all concerned on an interesting journal"  
(Mr P.R. Dunn)

"It is pleasant to be reminded of old colleagues and to have details of social activities which have survived and new ones which have been started. The issue sets a higher standard than anything I can remember in the past. I wish the editorial board every success with the venture".  
(Mr S.A. Tempest)

"I think that starting its (the BT's) publication again is an excellent idea".  
(Dr J.A. Gobbetti)

"Congratulations on the revival of the Bush Telegraph and many thanks for your kindness in sending me the Christmas issue which I enjoyed immensely".  
(Mr A. Johnson)

"The revival of the Bush Telegraph is great news....."  
(Mr J.W.E.(Doc) Watson)

"The first new issue is, in my view, absolutely first-class and it will be no easy matter to keep up the same standard".  
(Dr A.L. Williams)

We shall be finalising our circulation list after the January issue, so would any pensioners who have not yet replied, but wish to receive future issues, please contact us as soon as possible.

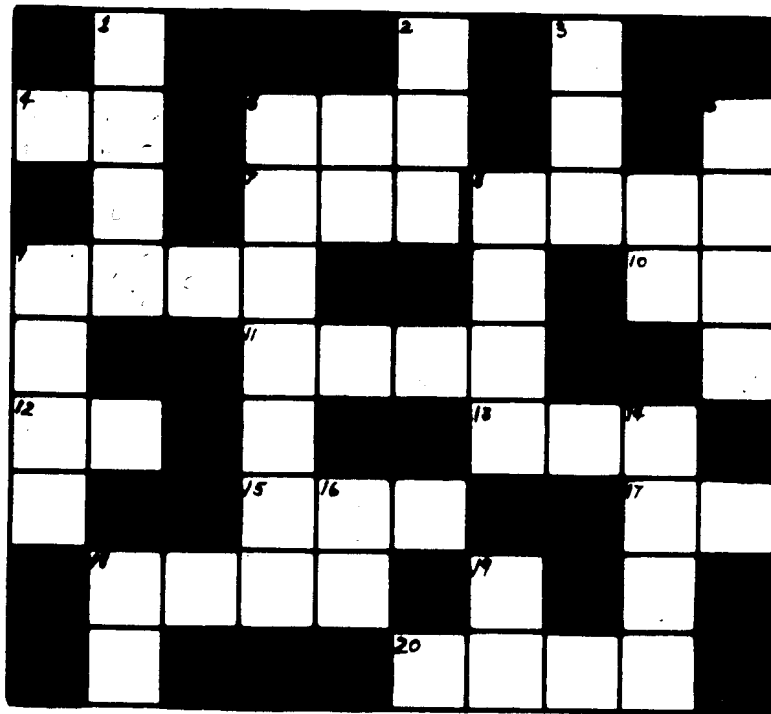
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## Late News

### LONG SERVICE AWARDS

John Vernon (Metallurgy) - 20 years on 13th January  
Alf Britchford (Stores) - 40 years on 17th January

# Cross Numb-er



## Clues

### ACROSS

4. Not the same as 2 times 4 (2).
5. Two metric units for use at Sotheby's (3).
7. A long way from Giant Chocolate Bars (3).
- ~~8.~~ A giant leap for someone (year) (4).
9. Perhaps it's Metric (4).
- ~~10.~~ Keys are issued earlier nowadays (2).
- ~~11.~~ It was probably hot here in this year (4).
12. If you are not this, see a Doctor (2).
- ~~13.~~ DCXXXI.
- ~~15.~~ Not really obese.
17. The nth Prime Number where n is the first two numbers of clue 8 across. (2)
18. How many pounds are in this barrel? (4).
- ~~20.~~ The First President of the USA, inaugurated in.... (4).

### DOWN

1. Our pips (4).
2. His word is as good as his.... (3).
- ~~3.~~ This Baker is a real square (3).
- ~~5.~~ The Father of "Star Wars"? (4).
- ~~6.~~ Written by G.O., starring B.B., six years hence (4).
- ~~8.~~ An eye for an eye on the South Coast (4).
9. The start of the last one, we hope (year) (4).
11. The beginning of this came first. (4)
- ~~14.~~ Oliver Cromwell sharpens his axe (year) (4).
- ~~16.~~ 2.489 mm or 0.0980 inches. There may be a twist to this (2).
18. The same as 0.82677 (2).
- ~~19.~~ There are more varieties now (2).

Answers, please, to Peter Revell, Chemistry Dept.,  
by noon on 6th February.

# Joe Kerr's Almanac

## January

The new photocopying machine arrives. It can sieze an entire book, copy and collate it at a rate of 9200 sheets per minute. It can also produce rubbish at approximately the same rate.

## February

Another power strike. The generator is on the blink but John Littler fits pedals and copes manfully.

## March

Several section leaders defect to the Middle East to work for Emir Pittans.

## April

The Board approve the purchase of a paper-shredding attachment for the new photocopier. Bob Black plans an extension to his house to accomodate more rats.

## May

In response to the Government's Save-It campaign, Peter Gregory unveils the new clockwork Conform machine, in the Company colours of chocolate brown and clockwork orange.

## June

Stefan Verne and Derek Edwards win the Bush Telegraph poetry competition with their joint effort entitled:

"I think that I shall never see  
A poem lovely as a tree"

## July

Norman Davis's studio is converted into a waiting room for the photocopier.

## August

John Endacott recovering in hospital after being pole-axed by a falling heap of suggestions for the New Markets Technology Panel.

## September

Doreen institutes an appointment scheme for photocopying.

## October

The new computerised telephone system is at last switched on. At the press of a button you can contact anyone in the BICC Group. As an economy measure, each phone is connected to the Flexitime system, so that every time you lift the receiver your Flexitime counter is turned off.



November

At least two section leaders hurriedly retire from the Genealogy Society.

December

Fran Lam takes up painting, by numbers.

B.L.

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SNOOKER TOURNAMENT 1978

It is planned to hold a snooker tournament during the earlier part of 1978. Will all those interested please fill in the entry form below or sign their names on the sheet on the notice board. Entries should be received by Friday 27th January and the draw will be posted on the notice board, along with a list of rules, on Monday 30th January.

If sufficient support is forthcoming, a billiards tournament will also be held, at a later date.

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To Keith Elder, Polymers Department:

Please enter my name for the 1978 Snooker Tournament.

Name	Dept.	Tel. No.

I would/would not\* also be interested in a billiards tournament.

\* Delete as appropriate.