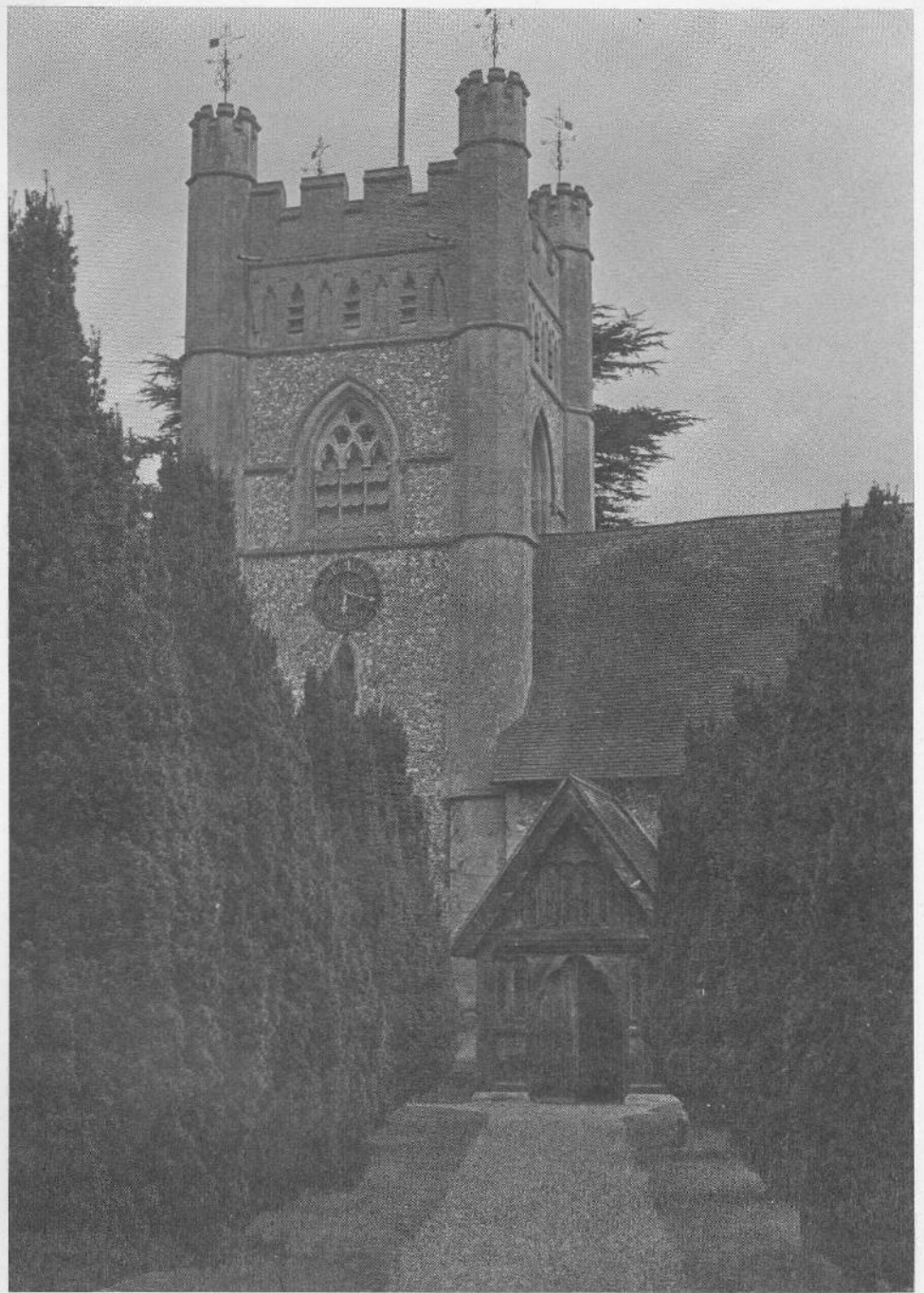


# BUSH apr 1979 TELEGRAPH



# BUSH

vol. 21 no. 5

# TELEGRAPH

the magazine of **R&EL** wood lane



## Cover

A Buckinghamshire church in Spring.  
by  
Denis Groombridge

## Editorial Board

David Green  
Denis Groombridge  
Mike Hagger  
Richard Hammond  
Geoff Holder  
Ann Kirby  
Ted Morrison



# Editorial

The art and practice of letter-writing has suffered a severe blow this winter and recovery may be slow. We refer to the shutdown at The Times. Here at the BT we have always been open for the receipt of correspondence - but we receive the barest minimum. It isn't that you have no opinions; you do, and we hear them all over the site. But why not commit them to paper?

Take last month for example. In this column we highlighted an area which, to us, appeared problematical and difficult - the struggle which the Works Engineering Department has to meet fully the demands of the laboratories. More people spoke to us about that editorial than any other since our revival. 75% of them agreed absolutely, 15% thought we understated the case, 5% thought there were other factors we failed to mention and the other 5% threatened GBH because it was a personal slur on their efforts (it wasn't). Someone went as far as cutting it out, sticking it on a notice board and adding his or her own comments, but nobody wrote as much as one sentence for publication.

We do not claim to have a monopoly on truth or opinion. We certainly do not have a monopoly on space in this magazine. It's your magazine, for you to use at all times. If you continue to remain silent we shall assume that every word we write is indisputable.

# Personnel News

## STARTERS Welcome to:-

Mrs. G. Gale who joins us as a Secretary in Personnel and Administration.

Mrs. J.A. Harrington who joins us as a Clerk/Typist in Product Engineering, Alperton.

Mr. J. Lysaght who joins us as a Messenger in the General Office.

Mr. N.H. Price who joins us as a Mechanical Fitter in the Works Engineering Department.

## LEAVERS Farewell to:-

Richard Barrett of the Physics Department who leaves after 9 months to take up alternative employment.

Madeline Richey of the Patents Department who leaves after 12 months service to take up alternative employment.

Chris Butlin of the Communications Department who leaves after 7½ years service to take up alternative employment.

## TRANSFERS

Jim Hamments transfers from Corrosion to Polymers Department.

Tony Warwick transfers from Metallurgy to the Mathematics Department.

## RETIREMENTS

Best wishes for a long and happy retirement to Alf Britchford of the Works Engineering Department who retired at the end of March after 41 years service.

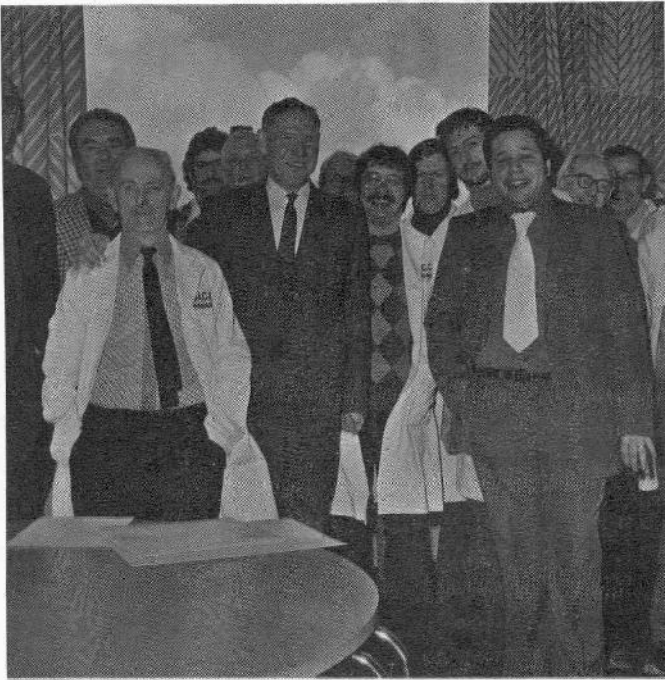
# Biccarella



WHEN I SAID I HAD NOT SENT IN  
RECENT CARTOONS BECAUSE  
THEY WEREN'T FUNNY THEY  
SAID IT NEVER STOPPED ME  
BEFORE!



# Retirement Presentation



## ALF BRITCHFORD

A large group of friends and colleagues gathered in the Main Hall on 22nd March for a retirement presentation to Alf Britchford.

Jointly in charge of the exercise were John Endacott (deputising for Mr. Banks) and John Littler, who possibly agree with current suggestions that work sharing could be a means of reducing unemployment.

John Endacott said that Alf was retiring after 41 years service, having joined as a storekeeper in 1938. He joined the Territorial Army in 1939 and was called up for service immediately war was declared. Alf returned to Wood Lane

in 1945, and in following year was promoted to chief storekeeper, a position he has held ever since. Thanking Alf on behalf of BICC John Endacott handed over to John Littler who reiterated the sentiments already expressed and commented particularly on the enormous enthusiasm Alf had always shown for his work. He added his personal thanks and those of R&EL before the presentation of a cheque and a large, and well inscribed card was made on behalf of everybody.

In reply Alf thanked everybody for making his life at Wood Lane so enjoyable and commented that mixing with people experienced in such a wide range of skills had helped him complete DIY jobs in the home which may otherwise have been beyond him.

The following day Alf, and many colleagues ventured down to "The Trafalgar" where arrangements had been made for the artistes to give him the VIP treatment, and rousing send-off to a very well-earned retirement at his new home in the West Midlands countryside.



# Diary of Events

DATE	EVENT	FOR INFORMATION
Fri. 20th April	Sea Angling Trip - Hayling Island	Andy Platt
Thur. 3rd May	Last day for nominations to the Executive Council and Bar Committee.	Pete Walton
Tues. 8th May	Last day for contributions to BT	Editorial Board
Thur. 17th May	Social Club AGM - 6pm Main Hall	Pete Walton
Fri. 18th May	Sea Angling Trip - Hayling Island	Andy Platt
Tues. 22nd May	Publication Day BT	Editorial Board
Thur. 24th May	Genealogy Section Meeting - 1pm	Mike Hagger
Sat. 30th June	Balfour Beatty Sports Day	Pete Walton or Roger Roberts (Football)
<b><u>Regular Events</u></b>		
Tuesdays	Badminton	Vic Banks
Thursdays	Badminton	Vic Banks
	Air Pistol Shooting	Peter Walters or Denis Groombridge
	Slimming - 1pm	Lindsay Buchan or Yvonne Ferrier
Weekends	Hot-Air Ballooning	Roger Millward or Denis Groombridge

## Thank you

Dear Friends,

I should like to thank you all for your kind wishes and the generous gift of the Black and Decker "Workmate" that you presented to me on leaving the company last month. I shall find this extremely useful, although fellow travellers on the Central Line and Southern Region last Friday evening appeared not to be so delighted.

I did try to see as many of you as possible before I left but for various reasons I was unable to see you all. The task of writing to you individually would deprive me of many valuable hours with my Workmate and I hope you will accept this joint letter. I should like to thank you all for your friendship and assistance during my eight years at Wood Lane and also to send you my very best wishes for the future.

CHARLES LARGIE.

# The History of Electric Wires and Cables

## PART 15. EARLY PAPER INSULATED CABLES

By R.M. Black

After the first recorded occasion of the use of paper as an electrical insulating material by de Salva for the insulation of the conductors for his electrostatic telegraph in 1795 there was little reference in the literature to its use for any electrical applications for over fifty years. That it had good insulating properties, particularly when dry, was realised by Michael Faraday who, in January 1836, demonstrated its 'bad conducting power' in a lecture experiment at the Royal Institution. This had involved constructing in the lecture theatre a cube of paper on a wooden frame 12ft X 12ft X 12ft which could be charged by an electrical machine and various experiments carried out on its surface and inside the cube. However, paper suffered from the disadvantage that it only too readily absorbed moisture from the atmosphere and at first sight this militated against its use as insulation for telegraph wires and cables, particularly as it would have to be a competitor with gutta percha, which actually performed better in a moist environment.

The patent literature of the period describes a number of proposals for its use, such as for varnished paper in capacitors, (T. Morris and R. Weare, Patent No.3,205 of 1861) and there are two specifications which describe early examples of the now well-established paper lapping machines. It is interesting to note that both these specifications for paper lapping machinery are by inventors resident in France. In the first of these (No.933) filed by F.M. Badouin in 1857, two methods of applying paper tapes are proposed; that of rotating the cable as it was made to traverse past stationary spools of paper tape and the second, by rotating the spools of tape about the traversing cable. In both methods the cable was passed through a bath of bitumen to provide water-proofing and additional insulation. (See Figure 1)

In the second of these specifications, filed by A.F. Jaloureau and C.L. Lardy in 1867 (No.2,942), the cable was given a coating of bitumen impregnated paper, passed through a bath of hot bitumen, and then given a further coating of lapped paper. This process was repeated several times to build up the insulation and the cable was finally served with a layer of bitumen coated thread or twine, passed through a bath of bitumen and then "sanded all over" to prevent adhesion between turns on the cable drum.

In the Jaloureau/Lardy patent it is described how in cases where there was a need to make a more 'powerful' cable, the cable was covered and strengthened with 'iron bands wound in spiral form' before the final serving and sanding operations.

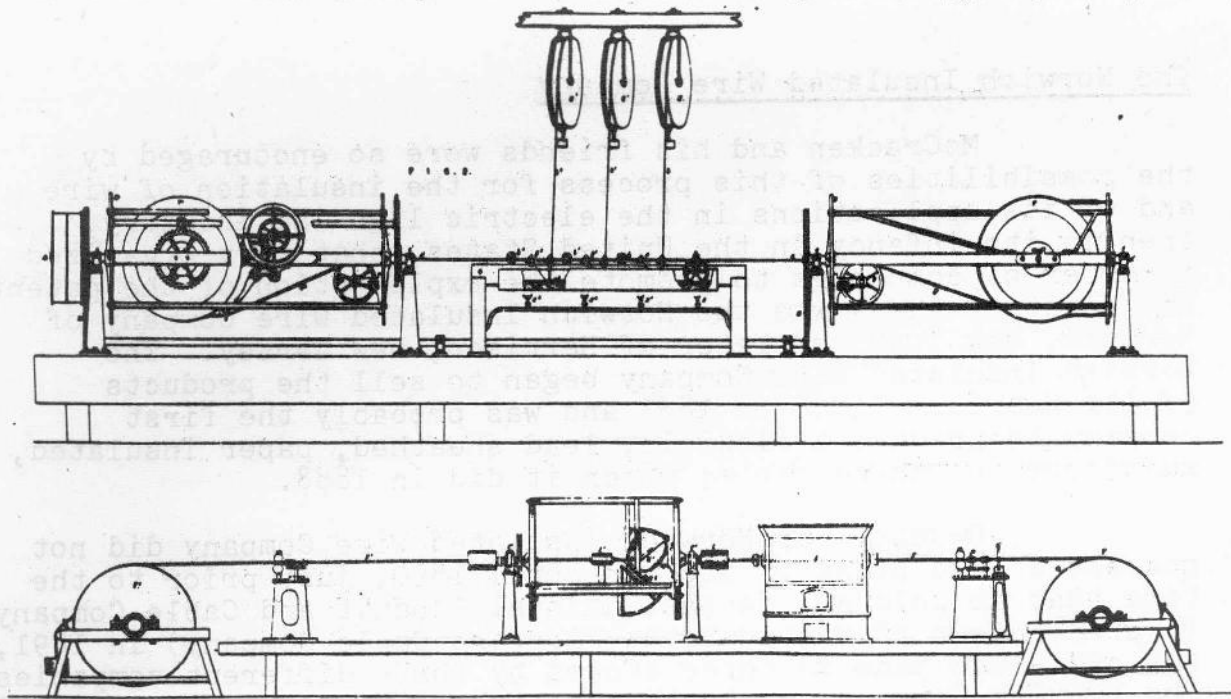


Figure 1 Badouin's paper lapping machines as proposed in 1857

These techniques for applying paper tapes appear to be derived from the rope and textile industries, and the cotton and silk insulated wires of the period must have been manufactured using similar types of machinery, although probably built on a much smaller scale.

#### Wortendyke and McCracken

There was, apparently, no direct connection between these patented processes of the 1850s and 1860s and the next important reference to the use of lapped paper insulation which occurs in a patent taken out by Edwin McCracken in 1884 (USP No. 304,539 of 1884). (See Figure 2)

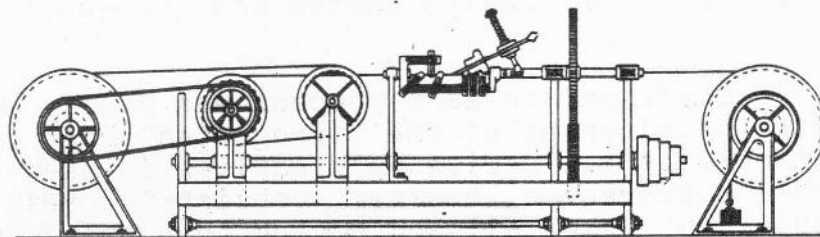


Figure 2 McCracken's paper lapping machine of 1886.

Some twelve years previously John Wortendyke, a paper manufacturer of Richmond, Virginia, had constructed a crude paper lapping machine in order to make a length of paper insulated bell wire for use in his home. There is no evidence that he made any attempt to exploit this process commercially at that time. McCracken, an employee of Wortendyke during this period, was interested in this wire, made further developments in the lapping machine and eventually applied for a patent for 'an electric wire having a covering consisting of spirally wound and lapping strip or strips of paper composed of pure vegetable fibre and applied in its unchanged fibrous condition to the wire, the paper forming of itself the insulating covering for the wire'.



## The Norwich Insulated Wire Company

McCracken and his friends were so encouraged by the possibilities of this process for the insulation of wire and of its applications in the electric lighting industry, then in its infancy in the United States, that they organized a number of companies to promote the exploitation of the patent. The first of these was the Norwich Insulated Wire Company of Norwich, New York and later of Harrison, New Jersey. The Norwich Insulated Wire Company began to sell the products of its Harrison Plant in 1887 and was probably the first company to produce a flexible, lead sheathed, paper insulated, multicore telephone cable; which it did in 1888.

Because the Norwich Insulated Wire Company did not possess a lead press of its own until 1890, just prior to the time that it sold out to the National Conduit and Cable Company, (a predecessor of the Anaconda Wire and Cable Company) in 1891, the cable was made in three stages by three different companies. The Norwich Company insulated the cores with paper tape according to the McCracken procedure. In this a  $\frac{3}{4}$  in wide manilla tape was lapped upon itself about half the width of the strip, thus forming the insulation as two thicknesses of paper along the length of the wire. The insulated cores were then sent to the Kerrite Company, who laid up the cable. The operation of assembling insulated cores, or groups of cores, into a cable is generally known as 'cabling' or 'laying up'. The operation usually involves the application spirally of successive layers of cores around a group of centre cores, or a centre made of jute, paper or rubber etc. The number of the former, or the size of the centre is so chosen that the remaining cores which it is desired to incorporate in the cable will make up one or more complete layers around the centre group.

The final impregnation and sheathing was carried out under the direction of the designer of the cable, Professor J.A. Barrett, Chief Electrician to the American Telegraph and Telephone Company, in the basement of the Robertson plant in Brooklyn. John Robertson was an established maker of lead presses and his company was therefore, in a position to sheath and impregnate the laid up cable.

Impregnation as a process was fairly well known before the development of the impregnated paper cable and it had been applied to fabrics much earlier in the century. Early impregnation processes, however, consisted merely of immersing the insulation in hot oil and hoping that this would drive out the moisture by evaporation and the air by expansion. It was John Jaques of Boston, Massachusetts who was associated with the Faraday Electric Cable Company and who, in 1885, patented a process which combined vacuum drying with hot impregnation under pressure (USP No. 369,793, of 1887). Jaques claimed:

" the process of insulating an electrical conductor, which consists in covering the conductor with fibrous insulating material, subjecting it to the combined action of heat and an air pump operated to produce a vacuum until the combined action thereof bursts the cellular structure of the fibrous insulating material and dispels the moisture, and then applying insulating substance under pressure".

Despite this considerable advance in cable making technology, the older method was retained for many years until the electrical requirements made the formation of a dry, voidless insulation imperative.

With the exception of the cable companies originating from the Norwich Insulated Wire Company, there was little significant activity in the United States in the field of paper insulated cables until the close of the century. In 1891, the General Electric Company manufactured some Siemens type 500 volt cable for the Chicago Edison Company. This possessed a composite insulation being made up of three wraps of paper followed by three of jute, the whole core being then dried and impregnated. This cable was put into service in 1892 and used as a feeder to the World's Fair in 1893. It continued in operation until it was removed from service in 1932.

On this side of the Atlantic, however, things were very different. Only two years after the first McCracken patent in 1886, Sebastian de Ferranti had been appointed Chief Engineer to Sir Coutts Lindsay's Grosvenor Gallery Company and in 1890 the Deptford Main was laid thus justifying the use of impregnated paper insulation for use at what were for those days, the highest voltages 10,000 volts.

### The British Insulated Wire Company

In 1889 a conference was held in the offices of the American Telephone and Telegraph Company at which Professor Barrett presented a paper emphasising the advantages of paper insulated cables then being produced by the Norwich Insulated Wire Company.

There was at that time an English commercial traveller in the fur trade, James Bassnett Atherton\* (see Figure 3) one of the seven sons of William Atherton a collier of Whiston near Prescot, who was also the preacher at the local Wesleyan church. As the course of his business took J.B. Atherton to America he took the opportunity to visit New York to negotiate on behalf of his brother Jacob, the salvage of a ship called 'the Manhattan which had been wrecked off the coast of Northern Ireland. Whilst in New York he attended on the 14th May, 1889 the conference at which Professor Barrett's paper was presented. Although he lacked electrical knowledge, his flair for sound reasoning told him that if paper worked satisfactorily as an insulant for telegraph cables, it should not be impossible to adapt it for use with power cables. Accordingly, he suggested to his brother Jacob that it might be a good proposition to exploit the process in England. As Jacob also had little knowledge of electrical matters he sought the advice of Colonel Crompton, C.H. Yeaman, at that time electrician to the City of Liverpool, and of Felten and Guilleaume, as to the possible merits of the process in the manufacture of power cables.

The report on the process was so encouraging that Atherton entered into negotiation for the acquisition of the British rights of the McCracken patents, and, on returning to England, formed the British Insulated Wire Company in October, 1890.

The stated purpose of the company was:  
"To acquire and work the British patents relating to the production of paper insulated telephone, telegraph and electric light wires and cables which have been worked in America by the Norwich Insulated Wire Company".

\* baptized Isaac but changed his name by deed poll!

The factory was to be located at Prescot in Lancashire (see Figure 4). Before the works were built however, there was a slight setback occasioned by the challenging of the validity of the McCracken patents by the International Okonite Company. Atherton obtained a legal opinion as to their validity in the courts with the result that Mr. Moulton QC, who played an important part in the Board of Trade enquiry under Major Marindin in 1889, (see Part II), expressed an opinion in favour of their validity and considered that the Directors would be justified in proceeding with the erection of the factory.

The reception given by the electrical press to the prospectus for the new company was not, however, uniformly enthusiastic. The Electrical Review in an editorial comment (Elec. Rev., 1890 27, 559) had the following observations to make:-

The British Insulated Wire Company

"Under this title a company has been formed for the purpose of working in this country the patents of the Norwich Insulated Wire Company of America by which wires are insulated with paper. Mr. R.E. Crompton is the Consulting Engineer, which should be a guarantee that the procedures, whatever they may be, are of value. The prospectus, however, does not furnish such information as would convince an expert that a really good thing has been produced; there is not one word that would indicate that if the insulated wire were submitted to the action of damp, or if soaked in water, its insulation would remain unimpaired. We are told that in New York the wire has been submitted to the most exacting most searching test of being laid close to the Steam Heating Company's mains. To call this a searching test is the height of absurdity; there are plenty of cables that will withstand heat. Again, the electrical inspector of the Corporation of Liverpool (Mr. C.H. Yeaman) is convinced that the cable is a good one - because it maintains a high insulation at a high temperature. As well might it be argued that the telegraph lines in India preserve their insulation in spite of the heat of the climate. Taking several other reports, we find that practically nothing more definite is stated than that the reporter 'is convinced that the cables and wires are of a very superior kind'. There is apparently no attempt to make any test which the merest tyro in a submarine cable factory would know to be necessary. We do not mean to condemn the wire; it may be a very good article both as regards efficiency and cheapness, but the practice (so common) of attracting the unsuspecting public by reports which are not worth the paper they are written on cannot be too severely condemned".

Two years later, however, the Electrical Review had a rather better opinion of the project, as can be seen from the following extract (Elec. Rev., 1892, 30, 582):-

The British Insulated Wire Company

"Within the last few months the foundation has been quietly laid of an undertaking which is likely to prove a factor of some importance in the development of the electrical industry during future years. Although in America paper insulation has been very widely adopted and, in fact, for telephone purposes is preferred to any other, the system

...at your head with in this country, except  
...The British Insulated Wire Company  
...of the New York (sic) The British  
...insulated wire for the purpose  
...Great Britain, and a site

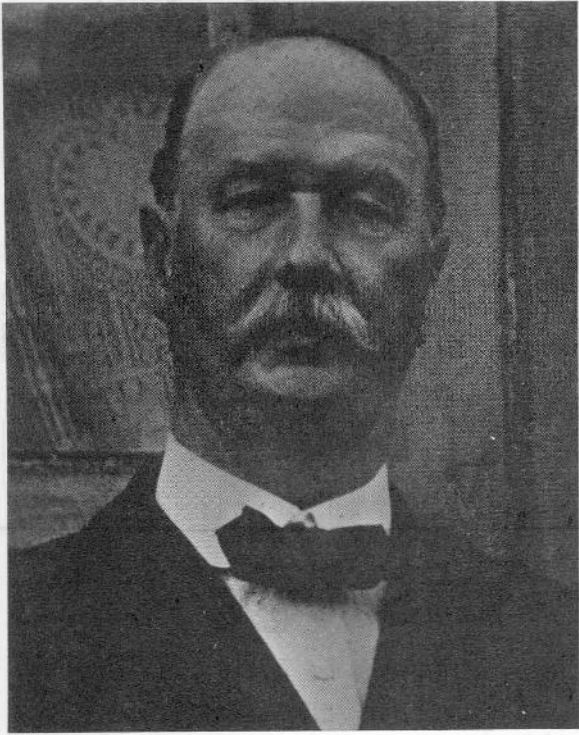


Figure 3 J.B. Atherton.

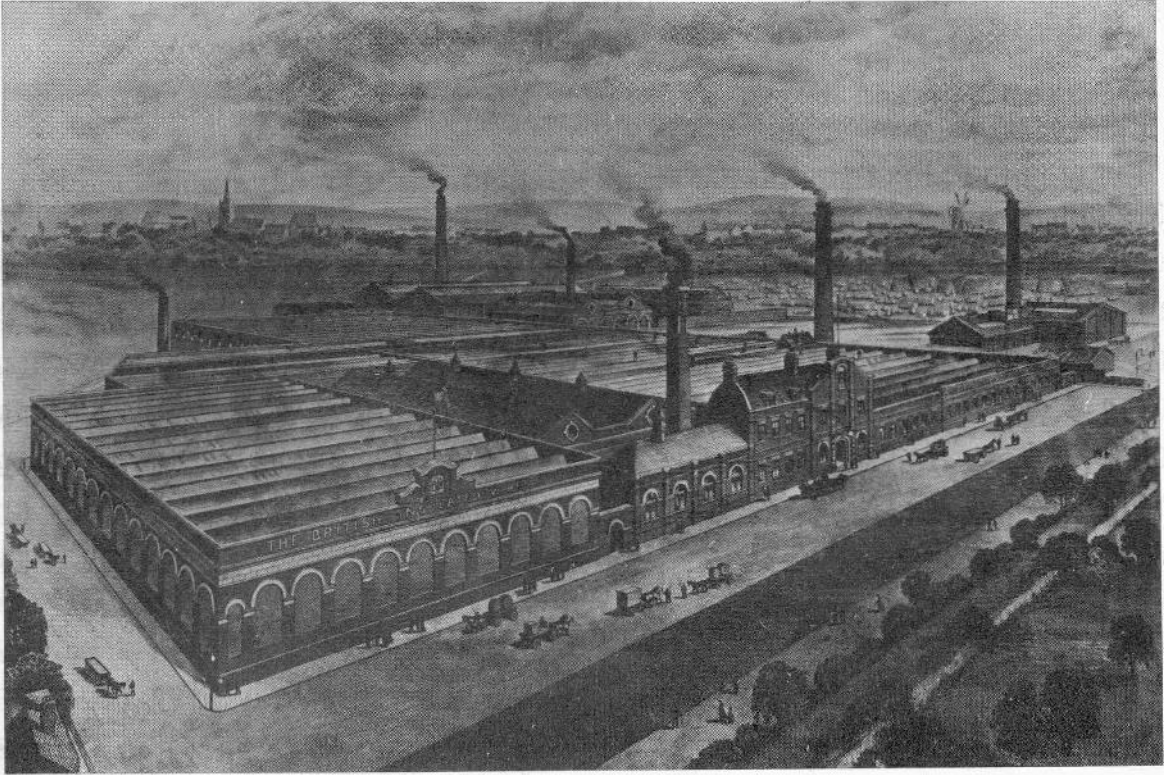


Figure 4 British Insulated Wire Company's Factory at Prescott c.1900.





# Site Access

On Thursday the 5th April a meeting, arranged by Betty Ormandi and also attended by four members of the Chemistry Department, was held with Fran Lam to complain about the gross congestion that had occurred in the access road the previous evening and to find out why the situation cannot be resolved. The discussion that took place covered the restriction in road width, caused by the parked cars, the high potential accident risk at the Wood Lane entrance and the atrocious conditions to which pedestrians are subjected.

Fran Lam agreed that the situation was entirely unsatisfactory and produced minutes of meetings held with Hammersmith Council to discuss the existing situation and possibly more important the long term solution.

As reported in last months Bush Telegraph both the access road an the adjoining land are to be redeveloped in the very near future. The initial stage of the development will include the access road and convert it to a public highway. As such the road will then be subject to various traffic regulations regarding parking, unloading etc. During the road reconstructions access to the site will be maintained at all times. However, while the development is proceeding it is possible, if not likely that conditions in the access road will get worse before they get better. To help alleviate the problems that are almost certainly going to occur the council is considering ways in which the number of lorries using the road, while it is being redeveloped, can be reduced. For example this may be achieved by using another entrance, but as this will then inconvenience other residents it may not be possible.

The developers have stated that the complete development should be finished in 2½ years and should certainly not exceed 33 months.

To summarise Fran Lam shares your views regarding the access road but stresses things may get worse before they get better.

---

R. Hammond.

Car parking under the bridge next to the Radio Installation garage has also been a serious problem in the past. This situation has been reported to the local police on a number of occasions and most recently after a phone call on 2nd April they agreed to visit the garage. We understand action was taken which led to the road being completely cleared of parked vehicles.

# Election Diary

(The very occasional column without the 5 year guarantee)

Whilst sunny Jim may well argue that a general election would have been called even without the vote of confidence defeat, there were more than enough twists to make the one vote majority seem slimmer than it was. Perhaps the most bizarre was the performance of maverick Irish Independent M.P. Frank Maguire, who left his bar in Lisnaskee to record one of his rare appearances at Westminster - only to abstain. Being Irish he naturally had a perfectly good explanation, "I came to abstain in person".

\* \* \* \* \*

We nearly had the election on October 5th last year, although the result may have denied us the sight of Mr. Denis Howell in astrakhan hat and snow shoes doing his "Man for all Seasons" act again. On non-polling day the Poet Laureate (or was it Miles Kington?) regretted the anti-climax.

Oh where are the flags and the bunting so gay?  
Where the rosettes? Where Robin Day?  
Why aren't we going now live to Armagh,  
Exotic Garscadden or dear Perry Bar?  
Where is the clang of deposits, oh where  
Is the swing of the poll and the recount at Ayr  
And the votes being read out all wrong by the mayor  
And the victor's big smile and the loser's brave air  
-Where did it go to? And where is my note  
Reminding me not to forget not to vote?

\* \* \* \* \*

Throughout the campaign "the media", especially TV, will try to be impartial. As soon as the date was announced the BBC cancelled a new Monday evening satirical show "Not the 9 o'clock news". Even so it is unlikely that they will go quite as far as a local TV station in the U.S.A. Early in January it was reported to have announced the following-  
"Last week on this channel Ben Bunzman wished you all a Happy New Year. Now here is an alternative view".

\* \* \* \* \*

Our system is often held up to the World as a model of democracy, but democracy has had its critics. Shaw said,

Democracy substitutes election by the incompetent many for appointment by the corrupt few".

With popular regard for Parliament at an historical low a latter-day GBS could well say,

"Democracy constitutes election of the incompetent few to the disappointment of the incorruptible many."

Or would you welcome being corrupted?

\* \* \* \* \*

Whatever the outcome on May 3rd the only people to profit will be opinion poll takers and Swingometer makers. If you want to upset their predictions remember the old maxim,

"Vote early, vote often."

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## BT Glory Bid Fails

Each year the British Association of Industrial Editors (BAIE) runs a series of competitions for House Journals and Industrial Newspapers. The competitions are divided into several classes and the Bush Telegraph Editorial Board decided in January to enter the category for Internal Magazines with circulations up to 7000 (ours is 350!!). Each entry is marked (we scored a total of 75%) for general content, copy, headlines, presentation, design, photographs and drawings, with the bulk of the marks allocated to content and copy.

The judge commented that the content was in line with objectives, but with a slight danger of over-emphasis on the social side. The standard of copy was found to be somewhat variable, but the judge found it "a lively magazine of obvious interest to its readers". We were criticised for a lack of "zippy headlines" and also for our presentation being "a little unimaginative". Obviously we're a staid lot on the Board.

The final summing-up said, "a lot of interest and information contained in inexpensive form. I liked the idea of questioning top management through the columns. Plenty - almost too much - entertaining diversions, I liked the title also".

So, we didn't win, but it is very worthwhile to get an independent view on our efforts. As a final point it's nice to know that the title, invented 25 years ago by Les Hart and Don Beavitt, is still winning approval.

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## Letters to the Editor

Dear Editors,

Another Plea - this time on behalf of the not-so-nimble.

The improved road surface and visibility at the site entrance seems to encourage drivers to enter the site too speedily, despite the 10 mph notices. Already an animal has been run over and I personally have witnessed two near-misses involving pedestrians.

A couple of minutes extra on the flex-time clock can hardly be worth the risk of injuring some-one. So please, drivers, drive at a safe speed and keep your eyes open.

Molly Nalon.

# Section Reports

## GENEALOGY SECTION

A section meeting was held on Thursday, 29th March, at which the production of a bulletin suitable for circulation to other societies was discussed. It was agreed that it should be issued no more than twice a year.

A new booklet, detailing copies of census microfilms kept at locations outside the Public Record Office, was approved for addition to the section library. The secretary added that he would be up-dating the list of books etc. kept by members and also the member's interests list.

Parts I and II of the BBC-2 programme "Family History" were discussed. The potential usefulness of the microfiches now available from the Mormon Church was noted. The secretary agreed to obtain more details.

The section agreed that meetings should in future be held every two months. The next one was fixed for Thursday, 24th May.

by Mike Hagger (340)

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## BRIDGE SECTION

The section has now completed its league programme for the season, the teams having been selected from the following group of players.

Elizabeth Ness, J.A. Gobbetti,  
Denis Groombridge, Roger Millward,  
Peter Walton, and Roy Fraser.

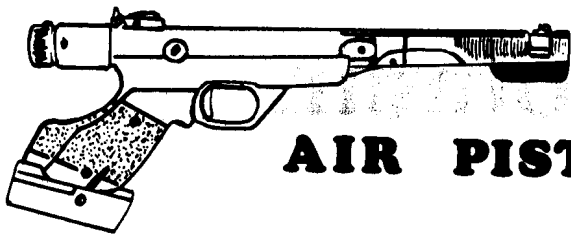
During March four matches have been played all in the 2nd Division Hammersmith and District League. These resulted in three victories, and a narrow defeat; which leaves us as strong contenders for the runners up position.

Yet again we have survived in the 2nd division of the London Business House League, finishing a few points above the bottom Club "Lyons".

### Results for March:-

	IMP'S	Victory	Points
NTG 'B'	82 - 22	10	0
Wimpey 'B'	38 - 51	4	6
Fulham Rangers	78 - 39	8	2
Fulham Rangers	67 - 26	8	2

Starting in May the section will be holding weekly practice sessions for players of all standards. The most likely evening being Thursday. Anybody interested please contact R. Fraser on Extension 323.



# AIR PISTOL SHOOTING



Member of

Shooting Averages as on 23.3.79.

Name	Highest Score	Average	Position	Name	Highest Score	Average	Position
L.P. Lou	50	46.5	1	P. Walters	46	28.0	5
D. Groombridge	50	42.5	2	R. Roberts	41	26.0	6
R.G. Maidlow	48	40	3	J. Walters	37	15.5	7
P. Dorovan	44	30.8	4				

Perceptive observers of the shooting averages will note that the most significant change this month, is that Denis Groombridge has obtained a maximum score, 50, from five shots (he points out that he got bullseyes with his sighter shots as well). Joe Lou retains his position at the top of the table in spite of Mr. Groombridge's efforts; Denis having shot his lowest score for five months on the night he shot 50. A perusal of shooting records of the past eighteen months has revealed that Denis' achievement was not entirely unexpected; of all the regular shooters (apart for Joe Lou) he is the only one to have equalled his previous highest score on a number of occasions. Most shooters, having shot their highest score have failed to approach it for months, the following list gives some idea of this:-

Name	Highest Score	Date	Next Highest Score	Frequency
L.P. Lou	50	4.5.78	49	5
D.R. Groombridge	50	15.3.79	47	6
R.G. Maidlow	48	2.2.78	46	2
P. Donovan	44	2.11.78	43	2
P.W. Walters	46	10.11.77	43	2
R. Roberts	41	1.6.78	40	2
J. Walters	37	16.2.78	36	1

When considered with the monthly averages, this list shows that though most shooters will have to improve considerably to rival the top three, it should not be beyond their capabilities.



# The Film Column

## Audience Reactions

The table below gives the audience reactions to the films shown at Wood Lane in the season that has just closed. Marks are allocated on a scale going from A (Excellent = 100%) to E (Very Poor = 0%); the Reaction Index is the average percentage rating. We are grateful to all of you who have filled in the Reaction Slips after the shows.

BICC Film Society: Audience Reactions 1978-9							
Date	Film Title	Number of Votes					Reaction Index
		A	B	C	D	E	
OCT 18	The Front Page	16	13	1	0	0	87.5
NOV 15	Images	3	4	5	2	1	60.0
	Louisiana Story	1	6	7	0	3	52.9
DEC 13	Hollywood Cowboy	3	7	0	0	0	82.5
	Early Sound Films	0	3	6	1	0	55.0
	Lt. Daring and the Plans of the Minefield	1	4	3	2	0	60.0
JAN 17	I'm Jumping Over Puddles Again	6	5	0	0	0	88.6
	Beat The Devil	2	3	0	4	2	47.7
FEB 14	Law And Disorder	2	5	5	0	1	63.5
	Rhythmic	2	4	6	0	1	61.5
	The Pre-Raphaelite Revolt	3	4	5	1	0	67.3
MAR 14	England Made Me	5	8	4	0	0	76.5
	Futtock's End	8	9	1	0	0	84.7

The Film Committee has grown in size with the co-option of John Anton of the Physics Department.

National Film Theatre Star struck? Then May at the NFT is for you. The emphasis in their programmes is on the stars, ranging from Mary Pickford and Lillian Gish in the silent days to the Barbra Streisands of today. Not forgetting special tributes to two British stars, Gladys Cooper and Robert Morley. There is also a short season of Swiss films of the 70's.

Film Recommendation Another Swiss film, but this one is at the Academy 3: Claude Goretta's THE LACEMAKER, starring Isabelle Huppert.

POT WHITE '79

The Snooker Tournament is now well under way, a number of group matches having been played, although Group 3 seems to be getting left behind.

At the time of writing (6th April) the results so far are as follows:-

<u>GROUP 1</u> Keith Elder bt. Leon Panasuik 50-42 and Les Marriage 70-13 and 'Sprog' Heer 55-42 and Jerry Counsell 56-31 Leon Panasuik bt. Jerry Counsell 173-32 'Sprog' Heer bt. Les Marriage 51-38 Jerry Counsell bt. Les Marriage 41-21	<u>GROUP 2</u> Mike Squelch bt. Denis Groombridge 43-27 George Price bt. Mike Squelch 58-56 Tom Dore bt. Denis Groombridge 75-29 and Harold Boulton 96-26 and Pete Mercer 38-27
<u>GROUP 3</u> 'Johnny' Walker bt. Roy Fraser 51-18	<u>GROUP 4</u> Geoff Holder bt. Tony Jordan 51-18 and Stuart Castle 80-12 and Pete Walters 46-40 Terry Alleyne bt. Stuart Castle 69-18 and Pete Walters 70-23 Tony Jordan bt. Pete Walters 61-28 Stuart Castle bt. Tony Jordan 41-34 and Pete Walters 42-25 Ron Arekion bt. Pete Walters 50-39

ALCOHOL

I apologise for the lack of activity on the Home-Brewing and Wine-Making Section front for the past two months, I'm afraid I have been rather busy on other things. There are several items of news; firstly, my newsagent has finally managed to acquire the "Winemaker" magazine, I will be circulating this soon. Secondly, in spite of my omitting to submit a budget to the Social Club on time, I believe that they have been generous and given us an allowance for our 1979-80 activities. Thirdly, a meeting is to be held during April, I am carrying out a "straw poll" at the moment to discover a date that will suit most interested parties, details will be posted soon.

P.W.W. (266)

CRICKET SECTION

You may not believe it, but the cricket season is here again. Undaunted by last year's unhappy experience we have again entered the Hammersmith Knock-Out Tournament - the first round of which must be played by the end of May. At the time of writing our opponents are unknown. Anybody interested in playing should contact Terry Alleyne (341).

# Executive Council

A meeting of the Council was held on March 22nd. Points arising were as follows.

- (1) The new badminton floor has suffered some damage. This appears to have been caused by the furniture being dragged across the floor. More serious damage is likely to result if this practice is not stopped.
- (2) The secretary reported that his predecessor, Mr. Heggie, was still in possession of Club files. It was essential that they be released in time for the AGM which has been fixed for Thursday, 17th May.
- (3) Insurance is to be increased to cover the new television. The proposed increase will cover many other items against theft.
- (4) The Club accounts are in a satisfactory state, with most sections keeping to their budgets. Proposals from sections for 1979-80 are in hand, but the size of the Company grant is not yet known.
- (5) Ten new members were elected and welcomed to the Club.
- (6) Forms for the new subscription rate have been completed and sent to Prescott. Deductions at the new rate should commence this month.
- (7) The Club piano has now been sold and removed, and the money raised from the sale is to be used to purchase an item of capital equipment. This is most likely to be a Stereo-Casseiver, but will depend on the availability of funds from next year's budget.

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ATHLETIC AND SOCIAL CLUB (WOOD LANE).

A.G.M.

To be held on Thursday, 17th May, 1979.  
at 6.00pm in the main hall of the McFadzean building.

Nominations are required for seven members of the Executive Council and five members of the Bar Committee. These nominations are required by 3rd of May 1979.

P.T.J. Walton  
General Secretary.

# Disco Report

## THE ST. PATRICK'S DAY MASQUERADE

It was wet so I pulled my hat down and stepped into the open, I climbed into my automobile and pointed the hood in the direction of the BREL joint. I'd heard that a big meeting was taking place. I got on the freeway and put my foot on the gas. The place was at the end of a dark alley and at the gate I was stopped by a guy in uniform, he gave me the once over and I flashed my I.D. (Into Disco ticket) and he waved me through. I left the car in the parking lot and headed for the main entrance. It was deserted so I found the elevator and punched the button for the top floor. As I stepped out they were in line waiting for me, I knew I was for the rack, the coat rack, but I soon got off the hook.

Keeping low I went through the swing doors; a big guy said "Hi!" I said "Hi! where's the broads?" his hand dived inside his coat; I thought I'd had it but he pulled out a paper and thrust it in my hand. I read 'Tourist Map of Norfolk'. He was a wise guy. I moved into the dimly lit room; on one side I saw a man behind some flashing bright lights but they did not fool me, I knew it was Mr. B the big noise in these parts. He was the guy who had everyone dancing to his tune.

I made my way to the bar, "Hey Joe! Scotch on the rocks" I said and looked around. At last my eyes were used to the dim light, the place was crowded. At first the meeting was all talk but as the moonshine flowed the action soon started. Father Christmas was present in plain clothes but I had him tagged. Nick the Limp was legging it in the middle of the floor while a cool blonde kept a watchful eye on the proceedings. Mr. B stayed out of sight behind the lights, but off the record I knew he still called the tune.

Keeping on my toes I moved around the floor but the heat was on and I needed to keep cool. Things were happening in the corner; I moved over and saw the goods laid out on the table, it was a free for all. I sidestepped a lunging arm which came back clutching a battered leg (a chicken leg). I was sandwiched in the corner but got out of trouble by taking a roll across the table. By now I'd had a plateful,

I cut me a bit more of the action before Mr. B made his get-away at one in the morning. He moved too fast for me and a small rearguard made a sweep of the joint removing all dabs and traces that he'd ever been there. It was a slick piece of work. I collapsed in a chair and wrote a few phone numbers in my book - all was not lost.

### Epilogue

I must thank the guys and dolls who pulled it all together; Yvonne yet again for the main organisation, Stephen for the poster and ticket designs, Roger and Sandra for selling the tickets and on the night David and Joe on the bar who were hard pressed to keep the service going. A few volunteers stepped in to overcome the problem but more help in that quarter is really required. A successful evening and so thanks once again to all those who did the work, including those not mentioned here.

# A History of The Film Section

by Ted Morrison and Tom Ruben

## Part VIII

It but remains in this final instalment to bring the story of BICC Film Society up to date by recounting the events of this Silver Jubilee season. The opening film was Billy Wilder's version of THE FRONT PAGE, starring Walter Matthau and Jack Lemmon. Ben Hecht and Charles MacArthur's newspaper play had been filmed twice before - the last time with Rosalind Russell in the Jack Lemmon part; although all three versions have their merits, this one is probably the best. Among the audience of 55 for this film and the soirée that followed was the secretary of the British Federation of Film Societies, Dave Watterson. Perhaps he came to see if we really deserved the award we had won in the Film Society of the Year Competition a few months before, but in any case he left with a favourable impression of the society and the enthusiasm of those who helped run it, as well as of Annette Mattock's catering. This was the third time we had had the privilege of entertaining the secretary of the Federation, as two previous holders of that office, Barrie Wood and Jean Young, had visited us in past seasons.

The main feature of the November show was IMAGES by the director of that success of a previous season MASH, Robert Altman. To mark our Silver Jubilee season we featured, in several shows, films that we had shown successfully in the past seasons. The first of these, accompanying IMAGES, was Robert Flaherty's famous LOUISIANA STORY, which we had previously shown 23 years before.

The main attraction at the Christmas show was HOLLYWOOD COWBOY, a film that had been a huge success at last year's National Viewing Sessions, directed by Howard Zieff and also known as HEARTS OF THE WEST, this is a spoof on the early days of Hollywood. It was accompanied by a film made in that silent era but in this country, LIEUTENANT DARING AND THE PLANS OF THE MINEFIELD, which we had previously shown, not in the silent period but in 1958.

The attendance at this show was disappointingly low, probably attributable to the timing which, being close to Christmas, clashed with many other seasonal functions. This is a great pity, for the few people who came thoroughly enjoyed the show.

1979 started with a double feature programme I'M JUMPING OVER PUDDLES AGAIN by the Czech director Karel Kachyna, and John Huston's BEAT THE DEVIL, starring the unlikely combination of Humphrey Bogart and Robert Morley. The attendance equalled the low December figure, but this time there were more definite reasons:



the weather was about the worst of a very severe winter, a rail strike was about to start, and the BBC had chosen to show one of our films on television the very next night. Thankfully, these effects were short-lived as there was a greatly improved attendance for our next film, by another Czech director but this time made in the USA. This was Ivan Passer's LAW AND DISORDER. With it we showed, for the fourth time, Norman McLaren's witty animated mathematics lesson RHYTHMETIC.

The season concluded with two British films, Peter Duffell's version of the Graham Greene novel ENGLAND MADE ME, starring Peter Finch and Michael York, accompanied by a picture of the goings-on at a typical English country-house weekend, FUTTOCK'S END. The end, yes, of our first quarter century, but the threshold of our second twentyfive years.

Finally we present the second part of our checklist of all the feature films we have shown in these past twentyfive seasons. The first part, covering films from the USA, was published in February. This part lists the films from all other countries.

CHECKLIST OF FEATURE FILMS SHOWN BY BICC FILM SOCIETY FROM 1954 TO MARCH 1979 - II

<u>Country</u>	<u>Director</u>	<u>Date shown</u>	<u>Film Title</u>	<u>Year</u>
Algeria	Leopoldo Torre Nilsson	Oct 71	The house of the angel	1957
Czechoslovakia	Jaromel Jires	Dec 73	Valerie and her week of wonders	1969
	Karel Kachyna	Jan 79	I'm jumping over puddles again	1970
Egypt	Shadi Abdelsalam	Sep 73	The night of counting the years	1969
Eire	Robert Altman (see also USA)	Nov 78	Images	1972
France	Claude Autant-Lara	Feb 69	The Red Inn	1951
	Jacques Becker	Jun 56	Casque d'or	1952
		Mar 60	Touchez pas au grisbi	1954
	Luis Bunuel (see also Mexico)	Apr 72	Belle du jour	1967
	Andre Cayatte	May 67	An eye for an eye	1956
	Rene Clair	Apr 54	Le million	1931
	Henri-Georges Clouzot	Oct 55	Quai des Orfevres	1947
		Nov 66	The wages of fear	1953
	Jules Dassin (see also USA)	Feb 64	Rififi	1954
	Jacques Demy	Dec 76	Les parapluies de Cherbourg	1965
	Carl-Theodor Dreyer	Oct 58	Vampyr	1931
	Julien Duvivier	Sep 57	La fete a Henriette	1953
	Claude Faraldo	Feb 77	Bof	1971
		Mar 78	Themroc	1972
	Claude Guillemot	Nov 70	La treve	1968
	Claude Lelouch	Apr 76	Un homme et une femme	1966
	Joseph Losey	Feb 68	Eve	1962
	Louis Malle	May 64	Zazie dans le Metro	1960
		Nov 67	Viva Maria	1965
	Jean-Pierre Melville	Oct 62	Les enfants terribles	1950
	Jean-Pierre Mocky	May 71	The order of the Daisy	1966
	Gerard Oury	Dec 77	The mad adventures of Rabbi Jacob	1973
	Yves Robert	Jul 61	Vive Monsieur Blaireau	1957
	Joel Seria	Jan 73	Don't deliver us from evil	1970
	Jacques Tati	Nov 75	Traffic	1971
	Haroun Tazief	May 67	Volcano	1958
	Roger Vadim	Apr 71	Barbarella	1967
	Agnes Varda	Mar 70	Le bonheur	1964
Germany	Helmut Kautner	Oct 59	The Devil's general	1955
	Jerzy Skolimowski	Oct 72	Deep end	1970
	Robert Wiene	Feb 65	The cabinet of Doctor Caligari	1919
Great Britain	Lindsay Anderson	Nov 71	If....	1968
	Ken Annakin	Sep 70	Those magnificent men in their flying machines	1965
	Joy Bachelor see Halas			
	John Boulting	Dec 64	Private's progress	1956
	Kevin Brownlow and Andrew Mollo	Feb 69	It happened here	1964
	Richard Burton see Coghill			
	John Paddy Carstairs	Dec 54	Tony draws a horse	1950
	Dick Clement	Mar 76	Otley	1969
	Nevill Coghill and Richard Burton	Dec 71	Doctor Faustus	1967
	Henry Cornelius	Apr 75	Passport to Pimlico	1948
	Basil Dearden	Feb 61	Half-way house	1944
		Dec 64	The smallest show on earth	1957
	Peter Duffell	Mar 79	England made me	1972
	Cy Endfield	Sep 71	Zulu	1963

	Albert Finney	Oct 71	Charlie Bubbles	1967
	Charles Frennd	Jan 67	San Demetrio - London	1943
	Robert Fuest	Dec 71	Just like a woman	1966
	Sidney J. Furie	Mar 69	The Ipcress file	1965
	Sidney Gilliat	Sep 64	Only two can play	1961
	John Halas & Joy. Bachelor	Oct 64	Animal Farm	1954
	Alexander Korda	Dec 55	The private life of Henry VIII	1933
	Alfred Hitchcock (& see USA)	May 65	Jamaica Inn	1939
	Anthony Harvey	May 71	Dutchman	1966
	John Huston	Jan 79	Beat the Devil	1953
	David Lean	Jun 54	Brief encounter	1945
	Irving Lerner	May 74	The royal hunt of the sun	1969
	Anatole Litvak	May 72	The night of the generals	1967
	Ken Loach	Mar 73	Kes	1969
	Joseph Losey	Feb 70	Modesty Blaise	1966
	(see also France)			
	Alexander Mackendrick	Feb 55 &	Whisky Galore	1949
	(see also USA)	Sep 63		
		Apr 60 &	The man in the white suit	1951
		Apr 75		
	William Cameron Menzies	Mar 56	The shape of things to come	1936
	Andrew Mollo see Brownlow			
	Roman Polanski (& see USA)	Feb 75	The dance of the vampires	1967
	Michael Powell and	Dec 67	A matter of life and death	1946
	Emeric Pressburger			
	Tony Richardson	Sep 69	Tom Jones	1963
	Wolf Rilla	Oct 64	Village of the damned	1960
	Nicolas Roeg	Nov 76	Don't look now	1974
	John Schlesinger	Sep 72	Far from the madding crowd	1967
	Robert Stevenson	Feb 58	Young man's fancy	1939
	Ralph Thomas	Dec 65	Doctor at large	1957
	Peter Ustinov	Apr 73	Billy Budd	1962
	Marcel Vanel	Nov 55 &	Oh Mister Porter	1937
		Nov 64		
		Apr 56	Convict 99	1938
	Peter Watkins	Apr 68	The war game	1967
	William Wyler	Mar 72	The collector	1975
	Terence Young	Oct 75	Thunderball	1965
	Franco Zeffirelli	Oct 74	The taming of the shrew	1966
		Dec 72	Romeo and Juliet	1968
	Mario Zampi	May 62	The naked truth	1957
	Fred Zinneman	Nov 77	The day of the Jackal	1973
Greece	Michael Cacoyannis	May 69	Electra	1961
		Jan 69	Zorba the Greek	1967
Italy	Mario Costa	Sep 56	I Pagliacci	1950
	Pietro Germi	Apr 66	Divorce Italian style	1961
	Elio Petri	Mar 71	The tenth victim	1965
		Oct 73	Investigation of a citizen above suspicion	1970
Japan	Akira Kurosawa	Jan 68	Rashomon	1950
		Feb 60	The seven samurai	1954
	Kaneto Shindo	Jan 70	Onibaba	1965
		Jan 71	Kuroneko	1968
Mexico	Luis Bunuel	May 68	The exterminating angel	1962
	(see also France)			
Panama	Richard Lester	Oct 77	The four musketeers	1974
Poland	Wojciech Has	May 70	The Saragossa manuscript	1964
	Marion Leonard	Oct 56	The treasure	1960
Spain	Orson Welles	Nov 69	Chimes at midnight	1966
	(see also USA)			
Sweden	Ingmar Bergman	May 59	Smiles of a summer night	1955
	Bo Widerberg	Jan 78	Elvira Madigan	1968
USA	see Part I (published in the February 1979 Bush Telegraph)			
Yugoslavia	Dusan Makaveyev	Apr 70	The switchboard operator	1967

That concludes this series of articles on the History of BICC Film Society from 1969 to 1979. We have made arrangements with the Editorial Board to reserve space in the September 1988 issue for the first article in our next series!

## The Other Side

Further to our item in last month's issue about the Amcel/Plastics and Rubber Weekly Crossword Competition, we are delighted to report that R&EL has won a prize in the second of these puzzles. This time the lucky man was Keith Elder who took 2nd prize - a Russell Hobbs electric toaster.

Rumours that the Polymers Department is concentrating its intellectual resources on these competitions in order to win enough equipment to convert the Processing Lab into a restaurant are to be discounted. The local magistrates wouldn't grant a licence!

# A Bird in the Hand.....

..... is worth two (prizes) in the Bush (Telegraph)

The square below contains the names of a number of birds (British and foreign, and including several extinct species) starting with the one that began it all, ARCHEOPTERYX (outlined). They run in straight lines, left to right or right to left, downwards or upwards, or diagonally, and at least one letter of each name is also incorporated in at least one other name.

The prize this month gets a boost from failure of readers to solve last month's Family Tree puzzle. So it will be a 1st Prize of £3 and a 2nd Prize of £1 for the longest lists to reach Geoff Holder by Friday 4th May. How many are there? Well let's say over 100.

B	C	T	U	R	A	C	O	D	F	C	Y	H	J	R	I	N	G	O	U	Z	E	L	K	L	M	E	N	H	P	C	Q
L	R	S	T	H	V	Q	U	A	I	L	E	E	E	A	W	X	Z	A	S	H	E	L	D	U	C	K	C	N	E	D	
L	I	N	N	E	T	G	I	C	O	L	R	D	L	I	L	J	A	Y	U	B	L	R	C	D	S	I	B	I	F	A	G
I	G	H	E	A	O	J	K	L	K	M	P	E	P	L	O	V	E	R	M	N	I	T	P	E	T	Q	W	R	R	R	A
B	S	T	R	D	P	V	W	C	X	O	S	Z	K	C	O	N	N	U	D	A	A	E	I	E	E	D	I	T	O	H	H
E	T	I	W	T	E	U	A	B	L	O	O	C	D	C	F	W	H	G	F	P	T	P	K	H	E	J	E	S	K	L	S
O	M	I	N	E	N	R	P	L	O	R	Q	R	E	S	T	C	H	V	U	W	G	X	O	R	Z	R	A	O	E	I	B
H	T	A	N	A	G	E	R	G	W	H	O	T	S	U	T	K	R	A	L	A	A	W	O	O	D	P	E	C	K	E	R
S	B	O	N	L	U	A	C	O	D	E	O	I	F	A	G	E	C	H	M	J	W	K	R	L	R	M	N	C	N	P	A
Q	R	A	U	S	I	T	L	W	S	N	S	O	H	V	W	S	X	Z	A	M	A	A	E	E	I	I	E	O	O	U	M
B	W	C	D	C	N	L	F	L	G	K	H	T	P	J	A	T	K	L	R	M	E	N	I	P	D	N	O	Q	T	R	B
S	W	I	F	T	A	S	T	V	I	W	X	U	O	Z	R	E	D	S	T	A	R	T	N	Y	S	A	L	E	I	L	
T	T	O	D	W	U	N	B	N	C	N	D	A	M	R	E	E	F	G	A	H	R	J	K	R	I	L	H	M	E	C	I
O	I	A	S	G	O	S	A	H	N	P	U	F	F	I	N	L	P	E	Q	A	C	R	W	S	T	L	H	A	V	O	N
Y	W	T	R	R	E	P	X	R	Q	B	Z	L	A	Q	E	S	H	I	H	O	H	U	B	S	N	A	N	C	N	C	G
S	D	E	E	L	E	O	Z	A	Y	U	G	H	E	U	L	W	T	P	I	G	E	O	N	I	D	I	J	U	K	K	U
T	B	H	L	U	I	O	N	M	N	L	O	P	Q	E	R	S	D	O	D	O	O	I	G	Y	T	T	R	V	D	A	I
E	W	A	C	X	L	N	B	C	D	B	F	H	R	T	L	I	A	T	N	I	P	H	H	R	E	E	G	H	J	T	L
R	E	K	K	U	E	B	G	L	M	U	N	B	C	Z	P	B	A	R	B	E	T	W	A	D	K	C	A	J	T	I	L
C	P	A	R	T	R	I	D	G	E	L	M	Q	R	A	S	Y	T	O	V	J	E	M	A	C	A	W	W	X	L	E	E
A	F	T	G	O	Z	L	M	A	E	I	K	N	I	L	O	B	O	B	A	I	R	G	E	O	W	U	A	B	I	L	M
T	E	F	C	L	T	L	E	Y	H	D	F	I	G	N	I	B	O	R	I	H	Y	P	R	J	I	O	K	H	T	L	O
C	M	K	F	N	E	S	L	W	N	P	Q	Z	N	R	Y	O	G	N	I	W	X	A	W	E	T	H	R	U	S	H	T
H	S	F	T	U	V	E	W	A	X	A	Z	T	A	G	E	H	I	O	I	O	I	U	B	C	T	D	F	C	G	O	E
E	F	H	I	J	R	K	C	P	O	C	H	A	R	D	F	L	M	N	P	L	Q	K	R	P	I	R	O	S	O	V	G
R	A	B	V	E	T	I	V	W	B	C	R	O	S	S	B	I	L	L	X	S	R	Z	A	A	K	T	E	E	O	O	I
O	L	I	T	U	L	B	C	U	N	D	S	H	G	R	O	U	S	E	F	P	T	E	G	R	E	H	J	D	R	K	T
L	C	T	I	E	M	D	Z	I	L	B	P	E	Q	C	R	S	T	H	N	A	G	I	M	R	A	T	P	O	I	V	W
X	O	T	P	Z	A	Z	F	R	E	T	A	W	R	A	E	H	S	E	E	R	I	U	N	O	O	B	D	I	V	E	R
D	N	E	I	F	A	W	C	A	D	G	U	A	H	I	C	O	R	M	O	R	A	N	T	T	J	N	E	V	A	R	K
L	M	R	P	R	A	E	K	A	R	C	N	R	O	C	N	M	N	P	E	O	Q	R	S	T	O	I	L	B	I	R	D
U	V	N	D	H	W	R	E	P	E	E	R	C	E	E	R	T	X	Z	A	W	O	O	D	C	O	C	K	A	T	O	O