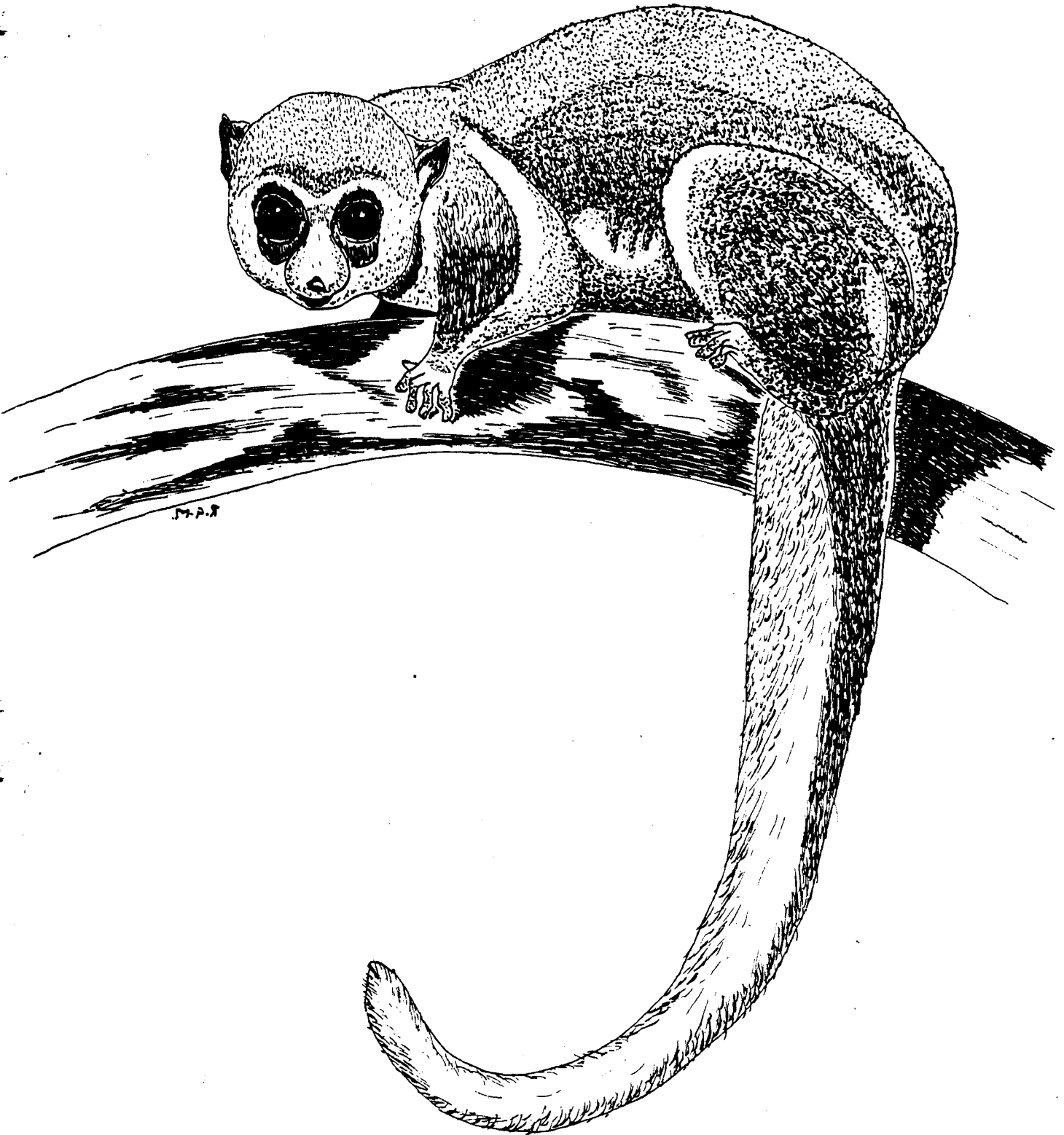


BUSH TELEGRAPH

AUGUST 1985



BUSH TELEGRAPH

VOL. 27 NO. 1

COVER

EDITORIAL BOARD

Ann Buchanan
Peter Walters
Geoff Holder
Ted Morrison

At long last the BT is back on the news-stands, and as you will see by the contents a considerable backlog of information has accumulated since the last issue at Christmas.

Many people, especially pensioners have enquired about the absence of the BT - it is gratifying to be missed. Unfortunately the simple answer to their queries has always been the same, unless help is forthcoming the BT will only be published spasmodically. At present the Editorial Board has four members, with one bearing the major load of collating, arranging typing and chivvying people. We badly need someone to take over this responsibility of running the magazine, backed up by a small body of helpers. Many people are anxious for the BT to reappear on a regular basis (not necessarily monthly) and help has been promised in areas such as typing, collation and distribution. The BT and its problems were discussed at the AGM of the Social Club and a number of suggestions were made to improve the situation. The possibility of incentives was mentioned, as was the possibility of devolving the responsibility for the BT onto the different departments at Wood Lane on an annual basis. In the latter case no one group of people would feel that they had taken on the BT "for life" (two of the present Board members have been associated with the BT since its inception).

Whatever procedure is finally adopted, one thing is clear, few people wish the BT to disappear. As a form of communication between the Company, Staff, Social Club and Pensioners it can have, and in the past did have, a useful and important function.

Please consider what we have written here, ideas, comments and, more importantly, active help is what we need urgently. All approaches will receive an attentive and sympathetic hearing.

PERSONNEL NEWS

STARTERS: Welcome to:

| | |
|-----------------------|------------------------|
| MISS A.L. BURGESS | OPTICAL TRANSMISSION |
| DR. S.A. BOOTHROYD | OPTICAL TRANSMISSION |
| MISS E. HARDING | OPTICAL TRANSMISSION |
| MR. T.J. WOOD | ELECTRONIC DEVELOPMENT |
| MR. K.C. BOOTH | ELECTRONIC DEVELOPMENT |
| MR. K.D. BERRY | POLYMER MATERIALS |
| MISS A.M. MCPHERSON | PATENTS AND LICENSING |
| MR. P. CHILCOTT | SITE SERVICES |
| MR. T. TAVERNIER | SITE SERVICES |
| MR. P. NAYLOR | RADIATION |
| MR. R.W. FEATHERSTONE | POLYMER MATERIALS |
| MR. C.D. WILLSON | MATHEMATICS |
| MR. A. MERALLI | ELECTRONIC DEVELOPMENT |
| MR. R.K. BENJAMIN | SITE SERVICES |

Farewell and best wishes to:

LEAVERS

DEPARTMENT

SERVICE

| | | |
|-------------------|----------------------------|----------------|
| MR. S.M. CASTLE | POLYMER PROCESSES | 21 YEARS |
| MR. C.J. KAVANAGH | COMPUTER AIDED MANUFACTURE | 6 YEARS |
| MR. R.J. HAZELDEN | OPTICAL TRANSMISSION | 6 YEARS |
| MR. L.R. DANIELS | POLYMER MATERIALS | 5 MONTHS |
| MR. M.K. NIEORA | COMPUTER AIDED MANUFACTURE | 6½ YEARS |
| MRS. Z. ARADI | MATHEMATICS | 1 YEAR |
| MR. C. KNIPE | SITE SERVICES | 21½ YEARS |
| MR. P. BUDGEN | RADIATION | 6 MONTHS |
| MR. S.D. THOMAS | PLANT AND PROCESS ENG. | ALMOST 6 YEARS |
| MR. I. MANNING | COMPUTER AIDED MANUFACTURE | 6½ YEARS |
| MR. D.H. TABOR | COMPUTER AIDED MANUFACTURE | 1 YEAR |
| MR. S. RALPH | OPTICAL TRANSMISSION | 6½ YEARS |
| MR. N.A.M. HILL | ELECTRONIC DEVELOPMENT | 1 YEAR |
| MRS. V. LLOYD | POLYMER PROCESSES | 1 YEAR |
| MISS A. MATTOCK | INORGANIC MATERIALS | 18 YEARS |

RETIREMENTS:

| | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------------|-----------------|
| MR. F.R. KING | COMPUTER AIDED MANUFACTURE | 17 YEARS |
| MR. D.D. LOTT | ADMINISTRATION | ALMOST 20 YEARS |
| MISS J.K. ROWBOTTOM | PATENTS AND LICENSING | 34 YEARS |
| MRS. I.B.M. FENNEMORE | ACCOUNTS | 24 YEARS |
| MR. D.R. EDWARDS | PHYSICS | ALMOST 38 YEARS |
| MR. G.E. KITCHIE | MATHEMATICS | 46 YEARS |
| MISS O.L. DRAGE | ANALYTICAL SERVICES | 28 YEARS |
| MR. L. PANASIUK | POLYMER MATERIALS | 25 YEARS |

TRANSFERS:

DEPARTMENT

SERVICE

| | | | |
|---------------------|----------------------------|---------|-------------------------------|
| DR. A.S.M. HALLIDAY | MATHEMATICS | 4 YEARS | TRANSFER TO MAYDAY ROAD |
| MR. M.R. HAMLIN | COMPUTER AIDED MANUFACTURE | 5 YEARS | TRANSFER TO BLOOMSBURY ST. |

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY DATES

The arrangements for Christmas Holidays will be as follows:

The site will close after work on Tuesday 24th December.

| | |
|---------------|---------------|
| 25th December | Christmas Day |
| 26th December | Boxing Day |
| 27th December | Nominated Day |
| 28th December | Saturday |
| 29th December | Sunday |
| 30th December | Nominated Day |
| 31st December | Nominated Day |
| 1st January | New Years Day |

The site will re-open on Thursday 2nd January 1986.

It has been decided that since the fourth nominated day cannot be used to any advantage during the Christmas/New Year holiday this year, Staff may on this occasion utilise it as part of their normal entitlement.

ABOUT THIS ISSUE

Following our long lay-off we have a very long list of potential articles for the BT. In this issue we have concentrated largely on personnel matters; in our next issue which will appear, hopefully, at the end of September the major social events of the year will be covered, including:- the Games Evening, Bar-B-Q, Pitch'n'Putt Competition, 11-a-side cricket games, Bridge Pairs Competition.....

Please keep an eye on the notice boards for details of the deadline for our next issue.

OBITUARY

KEN EDNEY

Ken Edney, who died suddenly in April, came originally from the Bath area. Following service in the Royal Navy, as an engineer, he studied at Southampton University where he obtained an upper second in mechanical engineering. After graduating he spent just over a year with Babcock & Wilcox and then joined BICC at Wood Lane in November 1959.

He joined the Instrumentation Section which was then led by Derek Edwards and was part of the Instrumentation and Control Department headed by Peter Graneau. He stayed in the department throughout his 25 years service at Wood Lane, during which time the department underwent a number of changes. For the past few years Ken was in charge of the Control Engineering area of the department, which is now known as the Computer Aided Manufacture Department.

His contributions to BICC were many and varied, examples being the analysis of problems associated with the laying of Cook Strait submarine power cables in New Zealand and investigations into the annealing of aluminium conductor as a tandemised production process in the manufacture of telephone cables.

Ken was well known for his intellectual ability, his warm hearted personality and his keen sense of humour which could be 'wicked' at times. An example of his personality and ability is that whereas he professed (pretended?) contempt for electronics, as not being part of engineering, on several occasions he successfully developed electronic circuits with a minimum of help from his 'inferior' electronic colleagues.

He was a kindly person, well liked, and always prepared to help others particularly the younger members of staff and students. His unexpected death came as a shock to all that knew him and he will be sadly missed.

The funeral took place on Thursday 4th April at Haycombe Crematorium, Bath and was attended by staff representing both themselves and the areas most associated with Ken and his work. On behalf of his family and the department we would like to thank again the many people who expressed sympathy and donated to the floral tribute. The contributions in excess of that required were donated to the British Heart Foundation.

K W ffitch
B H Keen

BRITISH HEART FOUNDATION APPEAL

Patron: H.R.H. The Prince Philip KG KT

President: The Rt Hon Viscount Tonyandy, PC
Vice-Presidents: The Rt Hon The Lord Cobbold, KG, PC, GCVO
Lord Forte, FRSA Lord Samuel of Wych Cross, FRICS
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Director of Appeals: Col James Malcolm



102 Gloucester Place, London W1H 4DH Tel: 01-935 0185

2nd May 1985

K W ffitch Esq
BICC Research & Engineering Ltd
38 Ariel Way
Wood Lane
London
W12 7DX

Dear Mr ffitch

The Late Mr Kenneth Edney

Thank you very much for your in memoriam donation. We are most grateful that you should have thought of helping our work at such a sad time.

A letter of sympathy has been sent to his sister informing her of your communication.

On our behalf, would you please thank all those who contributed and assure them that the money will be used in financing and encouraging vital research into the causes, diagnosis, prevention and treatment of cardiovascular disease.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "R. Emery". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent initial "R".

R Emery
Donations Secretary

BRITISH HEART FOUNDATION: A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
REGISTERED IN ENGLAND: REG. NO. 699547 CHARITY NO. 225971
REGISTERED OFFICE: 102 GLOUCESTER PLACE, LONDON W1H 4DH

RETIREMENTS

Dennis Lott

December 1984 saw the early retirement of Dennis Lott some nineteen years and eleven months after joining what was then CRED, and some seven months before qualifying for a free bus pass.

Not wishing to go into the various immigration procedures required to move to Prescot, Dennis came to Wood Lane as a refugee when the Pension Department moved from Bloomsbury Street. He settled into what was known as the records office working in succession for Mr. Tempest, Mr. Condon, Mr. Lam and Mr. Docherty. In his time Dennis came into contact with everyone at Wood Lane solving all those little administrative problems such as travel, telephone communication, office accommodation and a host of other things which go to make the organisation run smoothly. Most important of all, he did them in a courteous and cheerful manner.

After some years of arduous travel which must have been the equivalent of two or three times around the world Dennis has joined his wife Thelma in retirement in Kent, long to enjoy his interests in photography, music and theatre.

We shall miss him.

J. Heggie

Our apologies go to Dennis for the non-appearance of his photograph. The reason for this is simple; we were caught "on the hop" by his retirement presentation after the Christmas Lunch. We expected that his presentation would be later in the week, and has made appropriate arrangements for photographs to be taken!!!!!! (Where did our communication system break down?).



December 1984 saw the retirement of Bob King after 18 years with BICC. Bob came to BICC after 20-odd years with GEC in Wembley. During his time at BREL, Bob worked for a number of managers, latterly Derry Moore, Bruce Keen and Dave Greene. His job had many facets, the main one being the procurement of materials, apparatus and machinery to our specifications.

Bob's leaving of Wood Lane occurred in two stages, formal and informal. The informal consisted of an evening get together on the 5th Floor, which doubled, also as one of Stuarts Castle's leaving parties. The formal consisted of a presentation to Bob, by John Endacott, of an engraved snooker cue and a cheque, which had been subscribed to by Bob's many friends within the company.

In closing, we wish Bob all the very best for his retirement and hope that he is enjoying his new leisure/pleasure style of living (see the Thankyou letters section elsewhere in this edition of the BT).

Ivy Fennemore



In October 1960, Ivy literally 'popped across the road" to join BICC, having only a few yards to walk from her one time residence in McFarlane Road.

In the course of her career in the Accounts Department, Ivy, like many of her contemporaries has seen many changes at Wood Lane. At the last count, Ivy had served under eight accountants. Although this may suggest she had something to do with some of them leaving, she has in all seriousness, given each in turn loyal and conscientious service. Her knowledge and expertise added a great deal to the costing system as we know it today.

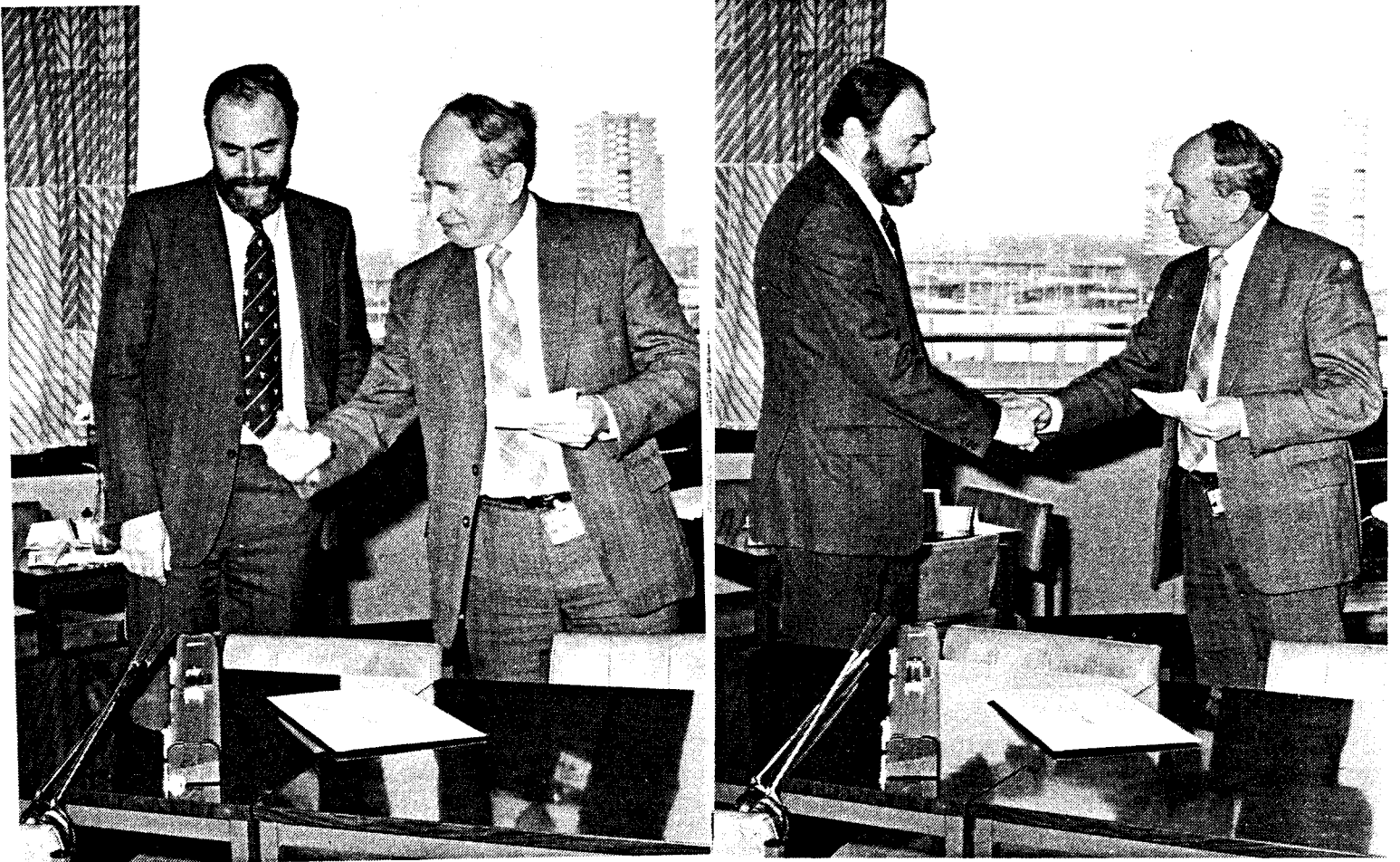
If one was to ask Ivy what she will miss most, maybe her reply would be the long awaited move to new offices. Or more likely, the various reactions from people who had to be 'prompted' for their diary sheets.

Whatever Ivy's personal thoughts may be, we know she will be missed so we wish her a long, happy and healthy retirement.



After over thirty-three years service in the Patents & Licensing Department of the BICC Group, Joan Rowbottom took early retirement on 31st January. Joan joined the Patents Department of Cable Research, later to become the Patents Department of BICC, in 1951. This was after working for 18 months for United Telephones, on the staff of Mr. Urmston (who was formerly in charge of BICC Research). Initially, Joan was a clerical assistant to Miss Ena Calman, who was secretary to the Patents Officer at that time, the late Mr. R.L. Cleaver. In a very short time, Joan's excellent secretarial capabilities were recognised and she became personal secretary to the late Mr. R.J. Battersby, a Chartered Patent Agent who was specifically responsible for dealing with registered trade marks and for whom she worked for some 8 or so years. On Mr. Battersby's retirement in 1959, Joan assumed responsibility for BICC trade mark matters under the guidance of Tony Daker who was, by that time, Patents Manager of the BICC Group. When Miss Calman retired in 1967, Joan became Tony Daker's personal secretary and also assumed responsibility for the accounts of the Department. Shortly after Ron Tarbox succeeded Tony Daker as Patents Manager in 1968, Joan was appointed Office Manager of the Department and she held that position, with continued responsibility for trade marks and accounts, until her retirement. Throughout her career, Joan has given constructive and friendly advice with regard to patent formalities, trade marks and accounts to all OPCOs and to the many Patent Assistants who have passed through the Department during her 33 years of loyal service. Her present colleagues will miss her more than they realise but, fortunately, at least for a few months she will be helping out in the Department on a part time basis. Her early retirement was recognised on 31st January by a small reception when she was presented with some gifts of her choice and a cheque subscribed to by her many friends and colleagues in the Group.

Derek Edwards



Derek Edwards retired at the end of January after 38 years with the company. His popularity and reputation throughout the whole of BREL, or rather the whole of BICC, were reflected in the very large number of friends and colleagues who attended his retirement presentation on January 31st. At the presentation, Dr. Farmer outlined a few of the very many activities that Derek had been involved in throughout his years with the company. These included many facets of high voltage cable work, one highlight of which was his involvement with the Cook Strait Cable, which took him to New Zealand.

In his reply, Derek thanked everyone for turning up to witness his departure and for his retirement gifts, which included some golf clubs. These, Derek hoped would become family heirlooms! He then made mention of a number of aspects of his career with BICC and the changes he had seen. In a lighthearted vein he mentioned the late-lamented River Boat Dances. One of his former members of staff was apparently never seen at Wood Lane again after leaving one of these dances - the last any one saw of him was on the gangplank! - Happy Days! We hope that there are many more of them for Derek in his retirement.

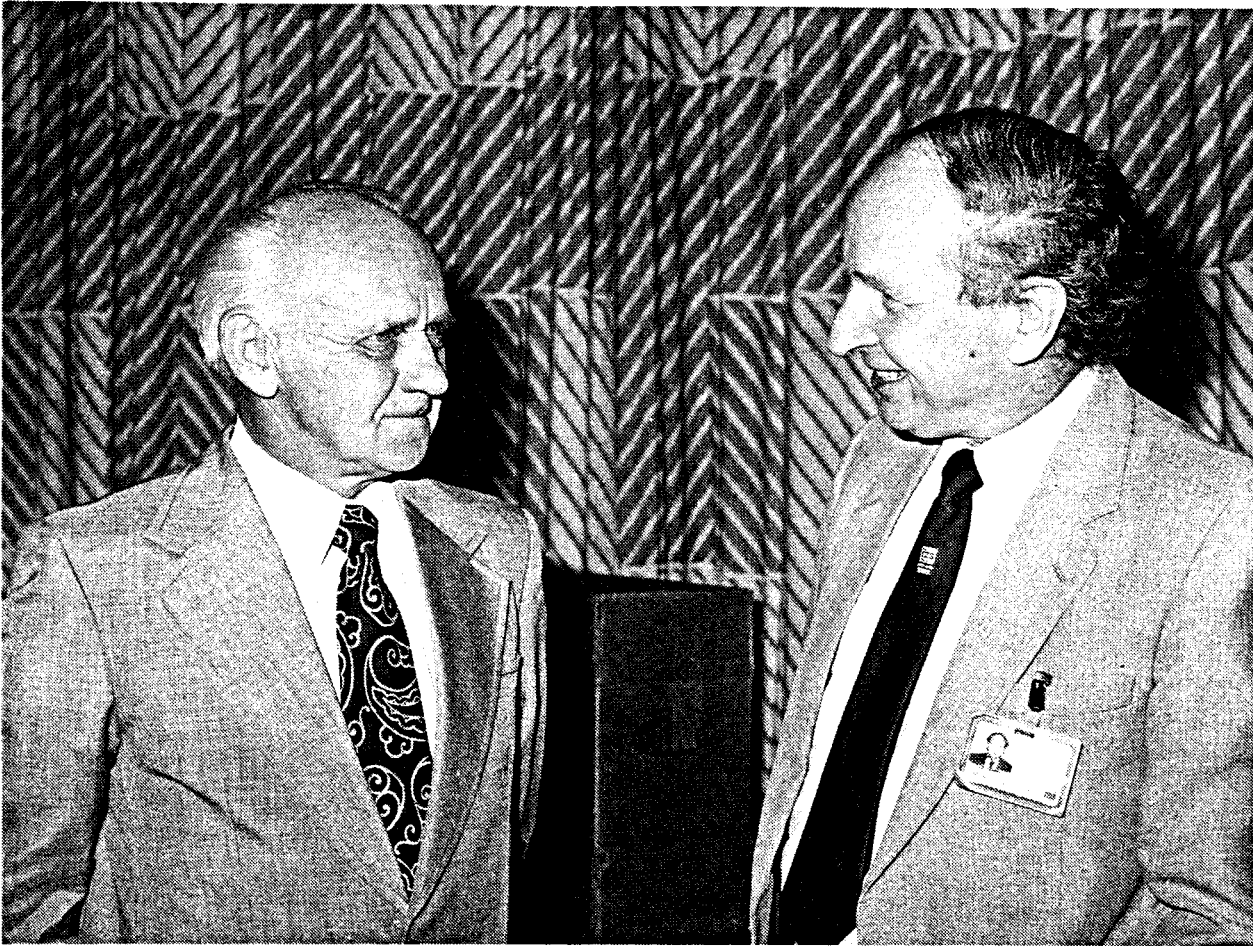
Stuart Castle



Stuart Castle left Wood Lane after over 20 years in December. He has not left BICC however, rather he has become "internationalised" and has taken up a management position with Associated British Cables in New Zealand.

The picture, above, was taken at Stuart's leaving presentation. In making the presentation, Stefan Verne outlined some of the highlights of Stuart's career spanning the time from when he came for his interview as a schoolboy through his progress to graduateship of the PRI and on to a management position in the Polymer Processes Dept.. Stuart's professional involvement with Wood Lane was matched by his involvement in Social affairs, he was actively involved in Social Club activities during the whole of his career at Wood Lane - being Vice President in the not too distant past.

We on the BT, and we are sure everyone else at Wood Lane, wish Stuart and his family all the very best for their new life "down under" - who knows we may even start "A Second Letter from NZ"!



Leon Panasiuk retired at the end of May after over 25 years at Wood Lane. Born in Poland, Leon served in the Army during the Second World War following his release from internment by the Russians in Siberia. After the War, in Britain, Leon worked in industry as a rubber technologist and during the period 1956-9 attended the National College of Rubber Technology. (Rumour has it that he developed his passion for Bridge while at the College). Leon's involvement with BREL began in 1960; the story of how Leon impressed Dr. Bielstein, the then head of the Rubber Section, with his reply to or question about the crosslinking of butyl rubber has passed into the folklore of the Polymers Dept. Over the years Leon worked on many different projects - Hypalon sheathing, polymer blends, smoke suppression, improvement of oil resistance.....to name but a few. Without exaggeration, it is true to say that he will be greatly missed by all of his friends and work colleagues throughout BREL.

In thanking everyone, following the presentation of his retirement card and gifts by Stefan Verne, Leon commented on his 35 years association with the rubber industry, 25 of them spent at BREL. His feelings on leaving were mixed, a sense of joy in freedom from the routine of work but a sense of regret at leaving so many friends behind. In taking (a slightly early) retirement he felt he had been granted parole for good behaviour and was looking forward to his freedom and being the master of his own life.



Olive Drage joined Wood Lane in early 1957 after working for six years as a senior analyst in the Crookes Laboratories and a brief spell with the Toni Cosmetics Division of Gillette Industries. It was a rather dramatic change from hair styling to cables products. She overcame the trauma, however, and went on to build for herself a considerable reputation as an analyst who knew a great deal about the materials used throughout the BICC Group. Her previous graduate training in science, followed by her success in the examination for the Fellowship of the Royal Institute of Chemistry, meant that she was seldom at a loss to find a scientific explanation for a chemical problem; whether it involved staining of copper or failure of a cable insulation. She examined water from Balfour Beatty bore holes in the desert, cast a critical eye over contaminated ex-gasworks land in Hereford and had her dreams interrupted by visions of 400kV stop joints for a considerable period.

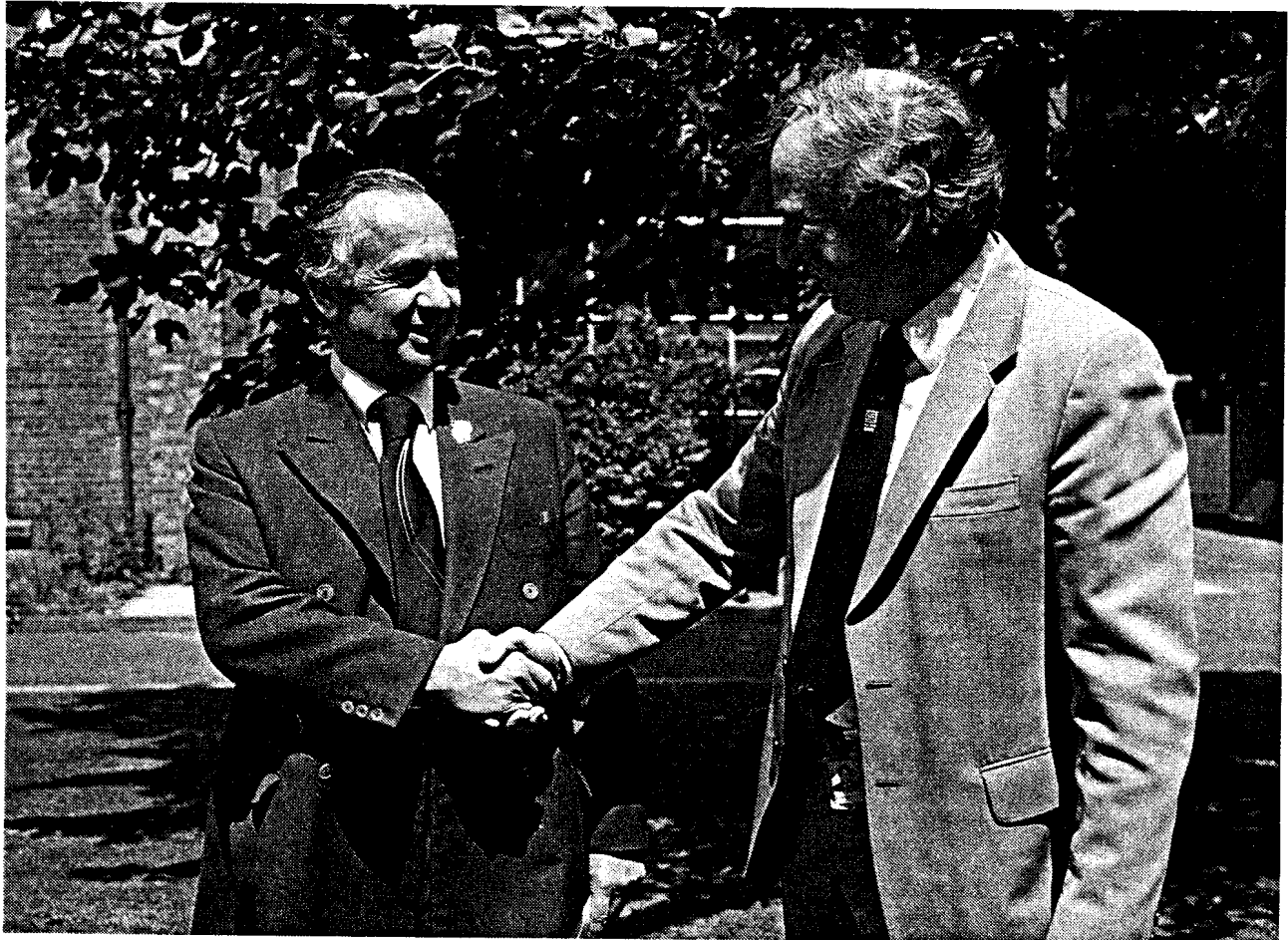
In the later period of her service Olive was a Section Leader in the Chemistry Department which became Analytical Services. She kept a broad approach to her work, contributing to BSI Committees on rubber and high purity copper and particularly in the organisation of the Chilterns and Middlesex sections of the Royal Society of Chemistry. She encouraged younger scientific staff to consider membership of the RSC and sponsored members on training programmes in the factories.

Olive will be missed by her colleagues at Wood Lane and also by the factory Technical Managers who used to ask for her advice on frequent occasions. She did admit that she was occasionally caught out or lost for an immediate answer to a problem. One instance was the occasion when a colleague from the Communications Department strolled in and casually asked if she knew what effect hydrogen had on glass !

We wish her a long and happy retirement with her husband Bill and hope she has more time for her other interests, which include gardening and visiting historic sites in romantic places.

A.R. Lane.

George Kitchie



Just over 3 years ago the Mathematics Department had on its staff 2 out of the 3 longest serving members at Wood Lane. Sadly Doris Murton died, Harry Charman retired after 50 years of service, leaving George Kitchie as the 'Father of the House' with 46 years of service under his belt. When George retired recently he accordingly became one of a very select group whose longevity in this respect is unlikely to be bettered if indeed equalled.

To be more exact George joined the Staff at Wood Lane on 3rd October 1938 as an Office Boy and Messenger at a salary of 15/- per week. His letter of appointment actually states - "Your duties will commence today, the 3rd October", showing that the typewriters of the past could spell no better than the Word Processors of today. Apart from a temporary absence

of just over 6 months due to being 'laid off' because of reduction in staff due to the outbreak of the 39-45 war, and some later war service, he spent all his working life at Wood Lane.

Studying part-time he obtained his B.Sc degree from London University and became one of the first people at Wood Lane to be involved with computers. He later rose to be the Section Leader of the Mathematics Department responsible for the main-frame computer and various associated activities. He played a major role in the development of the suite of Tower Programs for Mayday Rd. and those on railway electrification for Kirkby. However, despite rumours it is not true that the George III Operating System was named after him. Indeed I remember being asked by someone in Balfour Beatty what George III was to which I replied: "We have a number of Georges at Wood Lane, George I is George Moore (who was our Executive Director at that time), George II is George Kitchie and George III is the Operating System on the computer" - Oh! he said, and as far as I know he still believes me!

George's interests were not, however, confined to computers. Some years ago (about 12) his interest in union activities and staff welfare led him to becoming Vice-Chairman of the Wood Lane Branch of EESA, and later the Wood Lane Representative on the Management Roll Consultative Committee. Concurrently with this office he was elected to be a Member Director of "BICC Group Pension Trust Ltd", and served as such from 1976-1979. In this capacity and later he gave advice on pension conditions to many members of the Wood Lane staff.

He was at one time a keen bridge player and more recently has become interested in snooker. However, he has a prolonged interest in travel and his retirement will give him the opportunity to add to the list of exotic places he has visited.

Obviously we all miss his presence around Wood Lane, and wish him and his wife Terry well in their retirement.

Maurice Rothman.

ANNETTE MATTOCK

Annette Mattock recently left us for pastures (airfields?) new - her destination British Aerospace (Bristol).

After 18 years in the Metallurgy and Inorganic Materials Departments where she was noted for her helpfulness and methodical work, she was very well known and well liked throughout BREL. During this time many social club events benefited from her support and organizational ability.

At 'her presentation' mention was made of some of her many interests and achievements, including: Archaeology, erstwhile sporter of mini-skirts ("sadly fashions changed" the presenter said wistfully) and prize-winning Horticulturist (the *Crassula Argentea* has not been the same since her leaving).

She left with presents of a Russell Hobbs Jug Kettle, a toaster, radio-cassette, cash and many good wishes from her numerous friends.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

I. UK LETTERS -THANK YOU

Well done and thank you BREL

At Wood Lane during the period of our Ethiopian collection before Christmas you donated £168.32p and after Christmas up to the end of February a further £14.00. The total of £182.32p has been sent to the EETPU headquarters who have matched your contribution £ for £, making a grand total of £364.64p, before sending the money to UNICEF via the TUC.

EESA Committee

Dear Everybody,

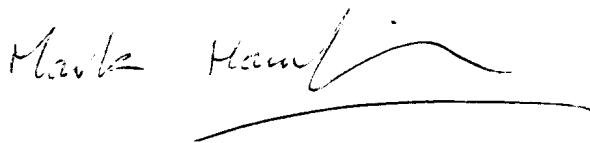
I would like to extend my thanks to everybody who contributed to my leaving present in December. It certainly came as a surprise to receive such a generous contribution to the Hamlin Benevolent Fund when I was only moving to Bloomsbury Street. It hardly seemed like leaving, especially as I continue to visit Wood Lane quite frequently.

The money has been put to very practical use in that I have bought a lawn rake, in a vain attempt to stop our garden looking like a 100' long compost heap, and a pipe bender so that I can relocate our kitchen sink in a, hopefully not so vain, attempt to stop Helen muttering dark things about the awful kitchen layout bequeathed to us by the previous owners of our house. Whilst the latter may appear to be a slightly unusual investment I should point out that to buy a pipe bender from Argos costs the same as only two days hire of a similar device and being a total novice in plumbing it may well take me more than two days. Oh that BICC could achieve a return on investment like that sometimes!

Finally may I register my apologies. On clearing my filing cabinet at Wood Lane I came across my complete collection of Bush Telegraphs since October 1979 (when I joined BICC). I decided that I really couldn't find space for the collection at home or justify transferring it to Bloomsbury Street so I went through them to filter out those copies with articles of particular interest to me. At the same time I noted down my own contributions to the BT and found only five very minor efforts throughout the five years. My apology is therefore really more of a registration of thanks to the editors and production crew of the BT who have allowed me and no doubt others like me to gain much pleasure with only a minimal effort in return.

Best wishes to everybody at Wood Lane.

MARK HAMLIN



Dear Colleagues

Although the 1984 Staff Christmas Lunch gave me a timely opportunity to personally thank most of my friends for the very useful gifts given me to mark the occasion of my retirement from BREL, I am writing to the Bush Telegraph, in case, due to the pre-Christmas celebrations, there were any to whom I was unable to say "Thank you" and offer a friendly handshake. I will truly miss you all and the feelings of friendship that lay not far below the daily round and common task.

In addition to the handsome case presented at the lunch, the remainder of the funds have been used to buy a glass-lead projection screen for my slides and one or two other photographic items to aid my life-long interest and hobby.

The seasonal January weather has left many in Kent land-locked, so my time so far has been spent, since the festive season, in working my way through a list, thoughtfully supplied by the distaff side of this partnership, of "jobs around the house", but in February the theatre with whom we are both associated have asked me to photograph their next monthly production - so, out with the camera case, into the car and - you know where I'll be!! - at the theatre or in the darkroom.....

In closing, may I wish you all a Happy and Prosperous 1985 coupled with the hope that I shall see you again before the close of this New Year.

Yours sincerely

Dennis Lott

Dear Friends -

Having made so many, over the past 24 years at Wood Lane, I would like to thank you all for the presents I received, and for the generous cheque. This I intend to use to purchase either a new sewing machine, or a cabinet for my existing one.

"Time flies when you are enjoying yourself" such that I found it impossible to get round to say "cheerio for now" to you all individually. But I will be around from time to time to see you, so in the meantime best wishes, sincere thanks, and keep these "DIARY SHEETS" rolling in.

Ivy Fennemore

Dear Friends and Colleagues at Wood Lane,

I must take this opportunity, through the medium of the Bush Telegraph, to thank everyone who took part in making my last month or so at Wood Lane one of the most memorable periods of my working life.

Particularly to all those who generously contributed to my leaving present and all those who painstakingly collected for it.

It was a complete surprise when I was presented with a suitably engraved Snooker cue complete in its box - plus cheque - at my retirement presentation.

It has now been put to good use and is part of my leisure/pleasure concept of life which I am now enjoying.

I am also happy to tell you that my knee operation over the Xmas holidays is a complete success, and that I am now undergoing daily therapy ready for my ski holiday in February.

All best wishes for 1985

Bob King (OAP)

Dear Friends and Former Colleagues,

I would like to say a sincere thank you to all my friends and colleagues at Wood Lane who contributed so generously to my farewell gifts. These were two metal woods (how can you have metal woods ?) and a very nice snooker cue and case.

As I explained at my presentation, I hope these items will become family "heirlooms" passing from son to son etc.

I must also apologise to those of you who contributed to these gifts but were not able to attend the presentation because you were not in contact with the "grapevine" and therefore did not know when it was to be held.

Good luck to all of you.

Derek Edwards

Dear Friends and Colleagues

16 June 1985

Many thanks to all of you for the magnificent cheque presented to me at a presentation ceremony on the 31st May. The many kind wishes and sentiments expressed on the accompanying card were much appreciated by both my wife and myself. It will be treasured as a lasting memento of the many long and, on the whole, happy years I spent at Wood Lane.

The money you so generously subscribed has been used to purchase a very top quality snooker cue and case which is certain to improve my game. The balance will be used to buy a good pocket-scientific calculator for which I am presently actively searching.

I hope to see many of you, from time to time, particularly at the pensioners' lunch. Assuming that space can be found for it with the presently reduced facilities.

Thanks to you all, individually

George Kitchie

Dear Friends and Former Colleagues,

I would have liked to write to each of you individually, but there are so many of you I fear that you would all have retired by the time I finished. So please accept a collective letter to thank you all for your kind wishes and most generous gift.

As many of you know, the first task of my new existence is helping to set the house to right after extensive water damage. This has so far precluded the relaxed approach I've heard so much about or wondering what to study under my new microscope.

Fortunately even major projects come to an end, and I hope that when I have recovered from the current round of frenzied activity I shall be able to visit Wood Lane and see you all. Meanwhile thank you all once again for all the help I've had from you in the past and the pleasure and interest I shall have from your gift in the future.

I wish you all happiness and success.

Yours sincerely,

Olive Drage.

Dear Friends & Colleagues,

Again I would like to thank you all for the pleasure of your company at my retirement "evening", and for your good wishes and useful gifts. I am sorry some of you could not make it but my thoughts and thanks to you, also, are no less sincere.

The memory of Wood Lane and of the people I associated with over the many years is one that I will cherish.

With best wishes
Yours sincerely

Leon Panasiuk

II. SOCIAL CLUB

To the Editor.

The Executive Council of the Athletic and Social Club has read and discussed the letter from Ted Morrison published in the last issue of the BT.

We do not agree with all the points made, and we feel that the Council and all club members should be working together to make the Club a success by providing the activities that are required. The Executive Council organises certain events such as the Childrens Party and the Wine Tasting, but it should be remembered that its main function is that of a governing body. The general activities of the Club are organised by Section Secretaries, and individual club members with specific interests, with the encouragement and support of the Council. The success of the Club is the responsibility of all members and not solely that of the Council. We would therefore like to take this opportunity to invite anyone willing to organise an activity or event to come forward and contact a member of the Council who will try to help and advise.

The Executive Council is striving to provide a successful club, but needs the help and support of active members, so lets all pull together.

The Executive Council

| | |
|----------------|-------------------|
| Chairman | Dr. A.R. Farmer |
| Vice-Chairman | Mr. R. Millward |
| Hon. Treasurer | Mr. R.A.G. Fraser |
| Gen. Secretary | Mr. P.T.J. Walton |

| | |
|---------|----------------------|
| Members | Mr. D.J. Green |
| | Mr. I.L. Fordham |
| | Mr. D.R. Groombridge |
| | Mr. R.G. Maidlow |
| | Mr. C.A. Platt |
| | Mr. E.K. Tan |
| | Dr. P.W. Walters |
| | Mr. D. Goff |

Dear Gardener,

A date for your diary :

MONDAY 9 SEPTEMBER 1985

BICC ATHLETIC AND SOCIAL CLUB, HORTICULTURAL SECTION

ANNUAL HORTICULTURAL SHOW

The Show schedule is being prepared, and will be available in the next few weeks. It will show only minor changes from last year, and if you wish to refer to the 1984 version we have copies available.

We also have a copy of "The Horticultural Show Handbook" issued by The Royal Horticultural Society for the guidance of organizers, schedule-makers, EXHIBITORS and judges. This book contains much useful information and tips for success at horticultural shows.

Good luck with the gardening.

Regards,

Andy Platt,

Horticultural Section.

For info: contact A. Platt (217)
R. Fraser, F. Walker (279)

III. OVERSEAS LETTERS -THANK YOU

Dear All,

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you who kindly contributed to my farewell gift of an electric drill and attachment, which should prove useful in the Antipodes. I look forward to seeing you all again in the not too distant future and how about this for a great idea, write you an occasional letter from New Zealand!!

Stuart Castle

LETTER FROM NEW ZEALAND I

Dear All,

Well, we arrived OK and are slowly settling down into some sort of routine. As I write this we are watching "The Citadel" on the TV which seems to transmit mainly English programmes about 6 months behind their UK schedule, so it's going to be a while before we see much that's new.

The weather in Christchurch has been very good with temperatures normally between 25 and 30°C. It's a bit more windy than the UK, but the winds are generally warm and Tess gets the washing dried quickly!

It looks like we just got out of the UK before the bad weather set in, although we were stuck on the tarmac at LHR because the tractor was slipping on the ice and could not push us away from the loading bay. We had a good flight to LA with BA, in fact the service on BA was better than Air New Zealand, although both were good. Spent a couple of days in LA and had a good day at Disneyland and did virtually everything except "space mountain". We were not very impressed with the rest of the States and were glad to be away. We stopped for an hour at Hawaii at about 3 in the morning local time just enough time to buy a few postcards and souvenirs, then on the Auckland where we touched down at about 9 am. The passage through customs and passport control was very quick compared to the States and we were greeted by the manager of the ABCAL Auckland factory who helped us to transfer to the domestic terminal, which is situated about a mile from the International terminal. We then went on a quick tour of Auckland before boarding a 737 for Christchurch. In many ways this was the best part of the trip as the weather was good and we saw a lot of NZ on the flight.

On arrival we were met by Alan Nichols and his wife who transferred us to a motel where we spent two days before transferring over to the lodge.

Started work on Thursday and am settling in slowly. The scenery around is fantastic with a good view of the Southern Alps on a clear day. We have had several runs out and are getting to know our way round Christchurch. People say Christchurch drivers are aggressive, but their pretty tame compared to London's.

The staff and workers at the factory are very friendly and helpful. We have been on several socials already and I am hopeful we should settle OK.

In many ways things are not as I thought they would be the atmosphere in Christchurch is far from rural. In fact, in many ways things are more up-market than the UK! There are laser check-outs at most supermarkets and there are hundreds of high class shops. The most surprising thing is that there is enough money around to keep them going, but I'm told NZ has a capitalist/socialist economy that is second to none!

We have found a house fairly quickly. It is bigger in area than our UK one, has scope for extension and there is a detached patio and swimming pool. We expect to take possession in mid February, with our container due to arrive in mid March, well must close,

Regards to everybody,

Stuart Castle

LETTER FROM NEW ZEALAND II

26 March 1985

Well we've been over here for about 3 months now and are beginning to form a few firm views now. Beneath things are more easy going overall, but working pressures seem similar. The ABC operation is very widespread ranging from cycle dynamo wire, general wiring, flexibles up to 33kV cables. There are two factories, one in Oakland and the other in Christchurch.

The driving standards are poorer than in the UK, nobody wants to give way, even to pedestrians on pedestrian crossings! There are specialist traffic cops over here and these are anybodies best friends.

The scenery is quite spectacular with rivers running through wide flood planes into the Pacific. I've seen nothing like it before. The size of the trees are also enormous and grow very quickly. Although very beautiful, the countryside lacks any quaintness in its towns and villages. Most of the original cob and thatch has long gone and wood and steel roofs are the order of the day. There are plenty of pubs but they are not at all English in character and the beer is always served chilled - oh for a good pint of Youngs at the Thatched House !

Generally, things are very much up market and not at all rural in Christchurch. There are hundreds of shops to browse around in. Antiques are inexpensive compared to UK. It is surprising there is enough money about to keep them all in business. All main suburban shopping centres are situated in enclosed malls, similar to the Arndale centres. There is no shortage of anything over here, but most goods are made in NZ and are of reasonable quality. Overall costs

are similar to those in UK, its a swings and roundabouts situation, but had we known what we know now, some things would never have gone into the container and the other world, i.e. the cost of an oil filled radiator is about \$300!! (PJD please note)

Although we've bought a house, we still haven't moved in yet. First of all the one and only container crane at Lyttleton, Christchurch Post, was wrecked by a P& O ship docking. The bows caught it and the whole thing collapsed like a pack of cards - no damage to the ship. The containers was then off loaded at Port Chalmers but there has been a further delay due to a derailment on the single track line - ,still we are promised it this week !?

The children have settled in well, making lots of new friends, but no discernable accents yet.

Well, guess I must close now,

Regards,

Stuart Castle.

LETTER FROM NEW ZEALAND III

Dear Friends and Colleagues

27th May.

Since my last letter to you we have advanced very rapidly into our New Zealand winter. The days have been so glorious, blues skies and brilliant sun it seems to one that it is a continuation of the past summer, Mid Winter's Day being June 21st. We did have a contrast in the weather ten days ago when an unexpected storm from the deep South hit most of New Zealand, this caused very heavy flooding in many parts of both islands and winds gusting 100 knots. Two houses in close proximity lost their roofs and some large trees were uprooted, our section was covered with small branches. I spent most of one day cleaning up and getting everything ship-shape speaking about ship-shape the word media really has gone to town concerning New Zealand's stand against nuclear ships entering our ports. This, to say the least, put a pretty big dent in the ANZUS alliance the latter from all accounts originated thirty odd years ago being a defence pact drawn up between Australia, New Zealand and USA now the David Lange government has taken this stand America and Australia have withdrawn a great deal of support. Many people do say nuclear free zones are a good thing but the two super powers remain aloof. A few days ago VE Day was celebrated forty years on, I'm sure without the nuclear threat the world would have been long ago locked in mortal combat.

Since my last letter I have had some interesting climbing experiences on Mount Wainui, this climb in altitude is not great, 2400 feet, but in the words of veteran climbers it is a tough one. The reason being that it is covered from around 1200 feet with heavy bush and one must never stray from the ridges, the trail has been marked by means of luminous patches placed on trees approximately 40 yards apart. I would hate to do this walk unless

in a party with qualified guides, it is a common occurrence for seasoned climbers to get into difficulties. On the northern slopes of Mt. Wainui I could see our home about 8 miles away as the crow flies. I said to Ann before leaving to join the party that if she saw a white flag flying on the bush line that would be "Yours Truly" exhausted, and to send a police rescue helicopter.

Thank goodness this situation did not materialise!

The following week I again joined a party for a trek up the high ridges of wait for it! "MAUNGAKOTUKUTUKU" valley. By the way this Maori word means "mountain orchid of New Zealand" and is abbreviated to "Manatooks" again a tough climb through bush from sea level. By the end of the first hour I was breathing pretty heavily with sweat actually dripping off my chin end. I wasn't sure whether I would make the full trip, approx. eight miles, but in the party, striding valiantly ahead was a young man quite unconcerned by the rigours of the climb and obviously he never even noticed the torture the "Old" man was going through! I asked his Mum, an American, the age of her son and she said "nine". Then I knew that in no way could I give in and return down the track, in fact, he and I were firm friends by the end of the walk. Funnily enough I grew stronger and young Martin became more tired as time went on.

Early this month Ann and I had a late Autumn (or maybe?) early winter holiday in the Rotorua region. Hot springs, mud and huge state forests, it is a 350 mile journey through truly magnificent scenery, many parts of which remind me of the English lake district and the far northern Highlands of Scotland. After leaving Paraparaumu, we travelled north, with the Tararua Ranges on our Port-side, Mount Hector in the distance towering 5016 feet into the Heavens, along State Highway 1 until we branched away to seaward on Highway 3, closely following the main trunk line to Auckland, 500 miles to the North. The line incidentally is in the process of being electrified, this work being carried out by local engineers, rolling stock eventually from Sweden. As we travelled further north we left the Tararuas but soon, again on the Port-side, the Ruahini range reared its jagged peaks to the skies, the whole time we were passing through small towns and villages, mostly with Maori names, few of which I dare even try to pronounce, Ohakune, Raurimu, Owango and so on. We stopped for lunch at the Southern end of the Desert Road, a scattering of houses, Waiouru. Here the New Zealand Army Museum is situated, a fine museum covering the period from the Maori wars until the present day. However I fail to understand why it was situated in such an isolated place.

After lunch we started off once more along the Desert road, it was very forbidding and reminded me of Shap Fells in the Lake District, the only difference being the grandeur of the mighty mountain range, the Kaimanawas, looking into the far distance. Starboard this time we could see mighty Ruapehu with its mantle of snow at 9,175 feet, the North Islands highest peak. As you can imagine this is very popular with winter skiers. Following very close is Mt. Ngauruhoe a rugged mountain 7515 feet and the last of the trio Mt. Tongariro. This is the smallest, 6458 feet, but the huge National Park is named after this mountain. I was really spellbound looking across the Park at these giants. Another stop at Taupo, this place is famous for the trout fishing, also very cold being in close proximity to the great mountains just mentioned.

Rotorua at last appeared in the distance, long before actually reaching our hotel the rank smell from the sulphur springs made itself felt in our nostrils! From all accounts it is very healthy! We spent quite a pleasant time in the area, seeing some very interesting things - Rainbow trout which actually took bread from our fingers; the huge man-made state forest and the buried village at Taraweru, the latter was completely wiped out in 1885 when Mt Taraweru blew its top with the loss of 58 lives. We watched an exhibition of sheep shearing and dogs working sheep, the dogs seemed almost human, and the stage show itself. The explicit 40 minute show is rated the best of its kind in the world it features New Zealand's top breeding rams. These were all quite tame and as each name was called they wandered onto their numbered positions and sat looking at the audience. Holidays pass so quickly and soon the time approached for us to return, glad to get home again but always remembering early morning swims in the natural hot pool. I even entered into the really hot Japanese pool (46°C) and emerged looking like a lobster.

On the return journey we stopped off near Waiotapu and viewed the huge geothermal complex, steam from which feeds the giant turbines at the power station on the Waitako River. It was very wonderful to see so much power from the Earth's depths harnessed for the good of mankind.

On Sunday May 10th I was once again seated in front of the TV (at 2am) the stars twinkling in an inky sky to watch "LIVE" the Cup Final, needless to mention the game, only to say it was very exciting. Extra time meant me going off to bed at 4.40 am. It was good to see Wembley Stadium, the sun shining and the chanting crowds waving blue and red flags. We now have the England rugby team here for two tests against the All Blacks. Auckland beat them 24-6 on Saturday, yesterday's sports headlines called them "The Pitiful Poms". I hope they can do better next Saturday in the first test. As I write this letter outside on the sun deck, the thermometer is reading 88°F, I might mention that by late evening it will be down to 40°F or even lower. The Tararuas are snow covered, this only happens in the Winter months. Last week a pleasant surprise, a letter from Stuart Castle and family who are now settled in the South Island, living in Christchurch. He travels quite a lot between his home and Auckland so I might see him one of these days. It was sad to hear of Ken Edney's sudden passing; a long time ago, we would reminisce on our days in the Royal Navy, the lamps swinging more wildly with the more "tots" we drank!

Both Ann and myself are keeping fit and well, and only stopped swimming outside earlier this month. We have a covered pool at Raumati, heated so can continue swimming during the Winter, we hope UK weather turns for the better but is early yet,

Regards to you all
from

Ann and Vic Denholm

LETTER FROM AUSTRALIA

Dear All,

I have now completely recovered from a brain tumour which was benign.

The surgeon told me that I had had it for at least ten years probably twenty. It was a meningioma, which is a tumour of the skin enclosing the brain, which is almost invariably benign. The symptoms, most of which we realised were caused by the tumour only in retrospect, were fairly extensive and chiefly caused by pressure. The senses of the head, such as smell, hearing, sight but not taste, were diminished to a greater or lesser extent. Another symptom, from the text-books was that those with such a tumour exhibit "occasional bizarre behaviour, especially when under the effect of amotion" (if I did, then sorry). It became apparent because I had a grande-mal seizure on Thursday night but it was not diagnosed then. Then on Saturday afternoon my speech slurred and I started to limp - so I went to see the Sir Charles Gairdner (spelling right) Hospital which deals amongst others with neurological complaints. After four hours they decided to do a "computer aided tomography" of my head because of something seen in my left eye and thus saw the image of the tumour and I was admitted that night. I had an operation to remove the tumour and a fortnight later another to put back the piece of skull with fibre-glass where the tumour had been.

One of the side effect was that my memory of events that occurred in the last 8 months or so before the operation is not reliable, which is quite frustrating but, BUT I feel fortunate to be alive!

I am still not allowed to drive because of the original seizure and the five or more that I experienced as an after-effect on the night of the operation. however, D V, will be allowed to in August. The law in Oz is a little better than in UK where it is 3 years, as here it goes by medical recommendation.

Talking of law and traffic, there are some minor differences in the driving laws of the two countries. Here we are allowed to overtake on the inside if the road is marked in traffic lanes, which is initially disconcerting. When turning right we must pass nearside to another car coming from the opposite direction and also turning right. On the Freeway's (the Oz equivalent of motorways) there is a minimum speed as well as a maximum, and people can be prosecuted. Recently a guy got off because he slowed down because there were a number of flashing blue lights - they were checking on speed limits, but of course he thought it was an accident! Parking is not controlled by the police except at night, as during the day it is controlled by rangers employed by the local councils, and at night the police act as agents for the councils. The councils incidentally are responsible for noise and the police again act at night as agents of the councils.

Something that we notice, and that is often commented on by visitors from Europe or the USA is the quality of the light. It seems very bright here, even when overcast, and the air is very clean (except when we have a bush fire).

There were a number of very nasty fires in the Eastern States in the past few months and there have been some people tragically killed, including a whole fire crew who drove in the wrong direction because of bad communications. Most of these fires turned out not to be of natural cause but arson, in one case thought to be by a

member of a fire crew - he was killed by the fire he started.
Justice ?

Once out of the urban areas a large proportion of the roads are un-sealed, even portions of the Interstate Highway. When one drives along them one leaves behind a cloud of dust from the dirt surface and you have to be careful when cornering or it's a case of "oops, run out of road". But these roads are a very good way of seeing the wild flowers in spring or the bush anytime.

During last summer we had a period of ten days when the daytime temperature did not fall below 40°C and for the same period the night temperature did not fall below 33°C! Thus when the temperature is less than twenty (as it is now) it feels cold by comparison!

I will write again later in the year and I hope to give more information of the differences in Australia.

Regards,

Geoffrey Layzell-Ward.

DOWN MEMORY LANE

I. 1984 CHRISTMAS DISCO

This year's Christmas Disco was a glittering affair.

Everybody who is nobody at Wood Lane attended.

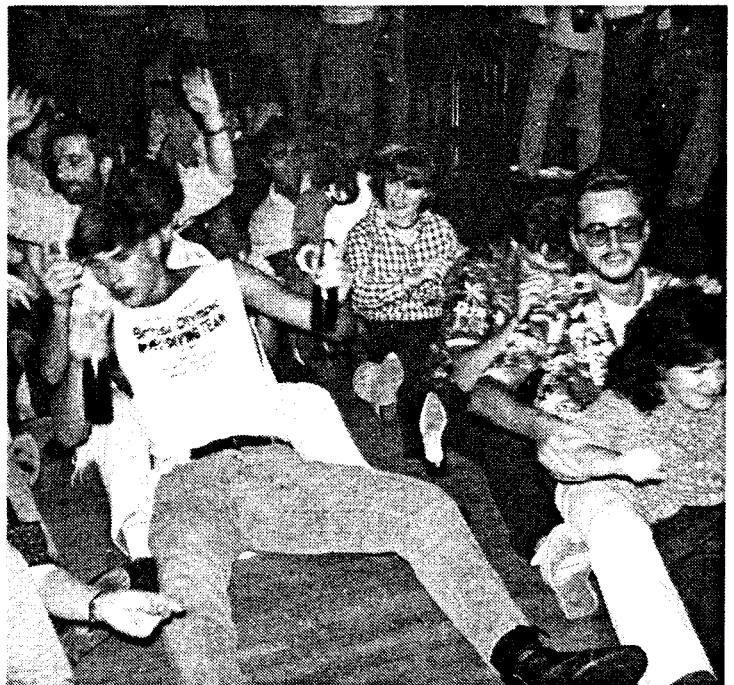
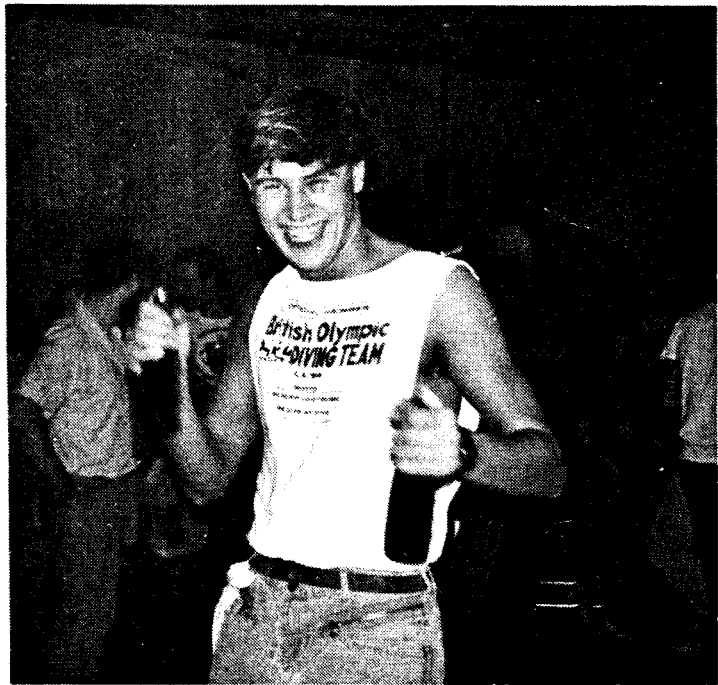
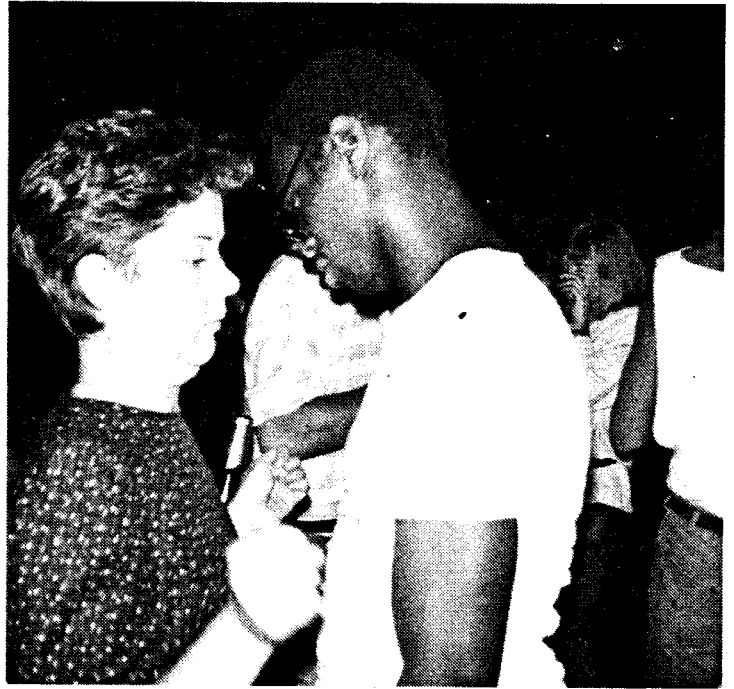
The fun and laughter carried on into the early hours, and those who stayed late enough were treated to a cabaret performance by John McGillivray, Wood Lane's own Eddy Murphy.

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank those involved in the organisation for their efforts, in the sale of tickets, moving furniture, getting John McGillivray home... etc....

I would also like to thank the Bar Committee for their help and for providing the bar Staff. (A bigger bunch of Bar-Stewards you are unlikely to meet).

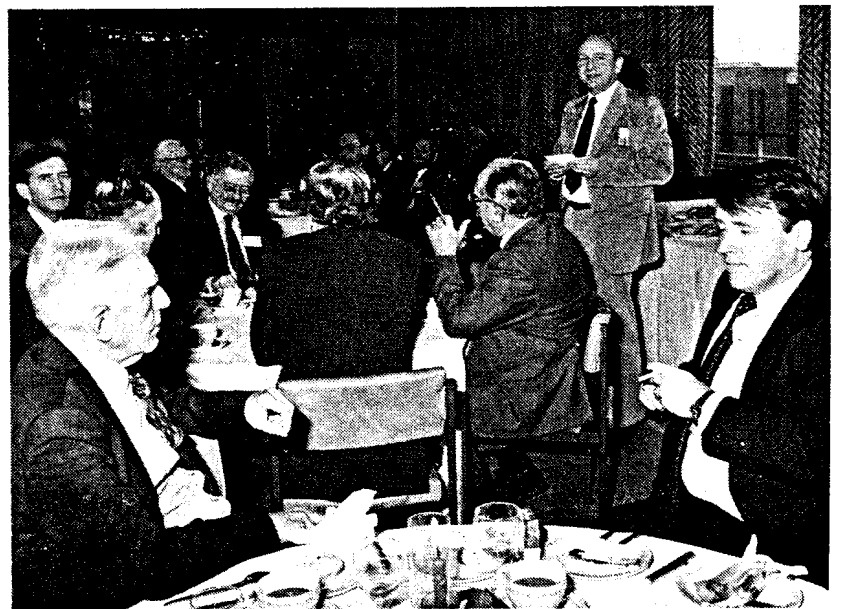
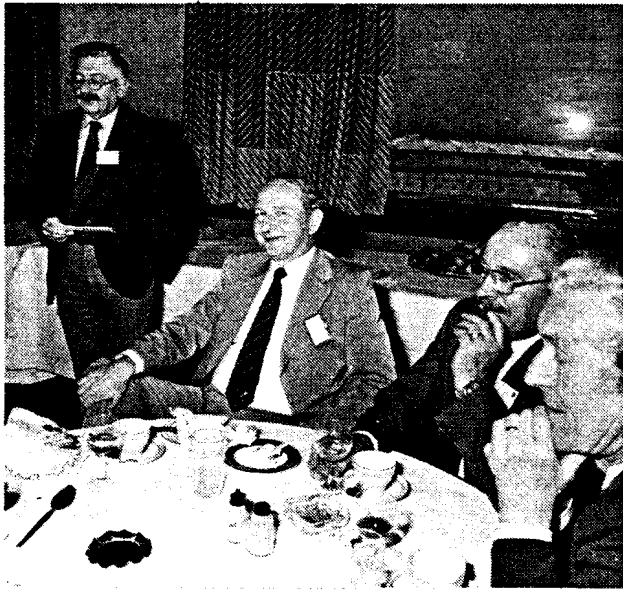
Hopefully another event will not be slow forthcoming and I hope your support can be relied upon.

Steve Harrison



Dancing (?) the Night Away.

II. PENSIONERS CHRISTMAS LUNCH



III.

PRIZE GIVING

| <u>NAME</u> | <u>DEPT.</u> | <u>COURSE PASSED</u> |
|---------------|--------------------------------|---|
| AUJLA P. | WORKS SERVICES | TEC (II) CERTIFICATE MECHANICAL & PRODUCTION ENGINEERING SOUTHALL TECHNICAL COLLEGE |
| BARKER P. | " | CITY & GUILDS OF LONDON MACHINING CERTIFICATE ACTON TECHNICAL COLLEGE |
| BISHOPP S. | POLYMER MATERIALS | 1ST YEAR TEC HIGHER NATIONAL CERTIFICATE IN POLYMER TECHNOLOGY NORTH LONDON POLYTECHNIC |
| CHAPMAN I.C. | ADMINISTRATION | CITY & GUILDS OF LONDON TOOLMAKING CERTIFICATE CROYDON COLLEGE |
| DOWLING K. | C.A. MANUFACTURE | 1ST YEAR TEC CERTIFICATE IN ELECTRONIC ENGINEERING ACTON TECHNICAL COLLEGE |
| FROST S.R. | POLYMER PROCESSES | FINAL YEAR TEC HIGHER NATIONAL CERTIFICATE IN POLYMER TECHNOLOGY NORTH LONDON POLYTECHNIC |
| HARRISON S.P. | C.A. MANUFACTURE | 1ST YEAR HIGHER TEC IN ELECTRONICS ACTON TECHNICAL COLLEGE |
| HAWKES G. | POLYMER PROCESSES | 1ST YEAR TEC HIGHER NATIONAL CERTIFICATE IN POLYMER TECHNOLOGY NORTH LONDON POLYTECHNIC |
| JONES S. | ADMINISTRATION | FINAL YEAR TEC HIGHER CERTIFICATE IN ELECTRONICS ACTON TECHNICAL COLLEGE |
| LITTLEBOY M. | PLANT & PROCESS ENGINEERING | 1ST YEAR BTEC HIGHER CERTIFICATE IN MECHANICAL AND PRODUCTION ENGINEERING KINGSTON COLLEGE OF FURTHER EDUCATION |

| | | |
|-----------------|---------------------------|--|
| McGILLIVARY J. | C.A. MANUFACTURE | 2ND YEAR (FINAL) TEC HIGHER CERTIFICATE IN ELECTRONICS ACTON TECHNICAL COLLEGE |
| RAJ. P. | WORKS SERVICES | TECH II CERTIFICATE MECHANICAL & PRODUCTION ENGINEERING SOUTHALL TECHNICAL COLLEGE |
| SEVANT D.K. | POLYMER MATERIALS | 1ST YEAR TEC HIGHER NATIONAL CERTIFICATE IN POLYMER TECHNOLOGY NORTH LONDON POLYTECHNIC |
| SMITHERS S. | ADMINISTRATION | CITY & GUILDS MECHANICAL ENGINEERING CRAFT STUDIES PART II HOUNSLOW BOROUGH COLLEGE |
| TOWNSEND M. | POLYMER PROCESSES | 1ST YEAR TEC HIGHER NATIONAL CERTIFICATE IN POLYMER TECHNOLOGY NORTH LONDON POLYTECHNIC |
| WARDROP B. MRS. | ELECTRONIC DEVELOPMENT | 1ST YEAR B.ENG. IN ELECTRONIC ENGINEERING DESIGN & PRODUCTION MIDDLESEX POLYTECHIC |

UNIVERSITY STUDENTS

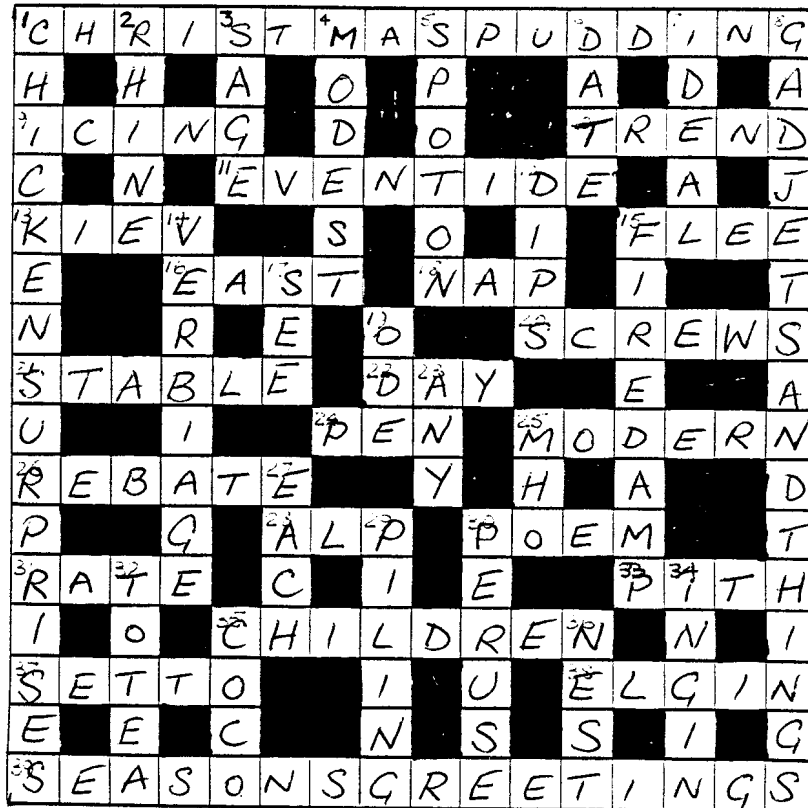
| <u>NAME</u> | <u>DEPT.</u> | <u>COURSE PASSED</u> |
|------------------|----------------|--|
| CHAPEKAR P. MISS | ADMINISTRATION | 1ST YEAR BSC IN ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING IMPERIAL COLLEGE |
| PRENDERGAST C. | " | 3RD YEAR BSC MECHANICAL ENGINEERING IMPERIAL COLLEGE |
| WILLIAMS J. | " | 1ST YEAR SPECIAL ENGINEERING PROGRAMME BRUNEL UNIVERSITY |
| PANCHAL P. | " | 1ST YEAR BSC ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC ENGINEERING BRUNEL UNIVERSITY |



Scenes from the Prize Giving.

IV. 1984 CHRISTMAS CROSSWORD

Our thanks go to the five entrants in the Christmas Crossword Competition. Only two of the entries were correct, however, so the prize money will be split equally between them. Our congratulations go to Pat Donovan and Ron Hall, who will receive £3 each.



FOR SALE

FLAT FOR SALE IN SHEPHERDS BUSH

2 Rooms, kitchen, bathroom and separate toilet £37,000.
Interested? Ring Brian McCarthy

Motorola Car Radio - 5 Push Button Station Selection MW/LW in first rate condition - price including speaker £18.
Contact D Cooper Ext 348.

Kawasaki KE 125 Trail Bike. Mint Condition, New chain and sprocket, only 6000 miles. Show Room Condition. Some new parts and some spares to go with it. £440.
Contact Gordon Ext 340.

POETS CORNER

Everything is White

Slowly in a dream I wake,
the bright light dazzles.
My hands and feet are tied,
I'm dressed in white.
Bells are ringing in my ears,
a chair falls over,
I must have propped it up.
They place me in a wheel chair,
the wheels are spinning
faster and faster
Round and round I spin.
Flying down the corridor.
I can see round all the corners
This is the Sun.
Each spotlight fuses into one.
The colours change,
suddenly he shouts stop,
Crash,
I fall from my perch.
The white coat laughs,
His teeth flash
reflecting those lights
They open a soft door,
I'm pushed inside,
I fall.
More lights,
where am I?
My throat is dry,
like the corridor the room is round,
everything is white.
I am in white,
the room smells.
I hit my head and feel no pain.
In a dream they leave me.
Slowly the door closes,
bright lights cease.
Click,
the key turns.
I'm alone.
The tears of knowledge cry forever,
revealing all and baring nothing.
Yet the fruitless search continues,
laughing, truths stay haunting the memory.
Only another will laugh at I,
The impassive stone lies broken to see.
But why?
I ask in desparation,
The answer comes spoken in cruelty
leaving me with only humiliation.
Happy memories partner my desolation,
No more sweetness of her scent,
The charity of her arms or the honey of her kiss.

P Jennings.

SOCIAL CLUB

The majority of the Personnel at Wood Lane belong to the Athletic and Social Club and participate in Club activities, and you are invited to join.

The Club has many sections catering for a wide range of interest and these are listed below together with the name and extension number of the Section Secretary.

| <u>SECTION</u> | <u>SECTION SECRETARY</u> | <u>TELEPHONE NO.</u> |
|-------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|
| BADMINTON | V.A.A.Banks | 272 |
| BALLOONING | A.J.Moore | 216 |
| BAR | D.Goff | 291 |
| BRIDGE | R.A.G.Fraser | 279 |
| BUSH TELEGRAPH | P.W.Walters | 441 |
| COMPUTING | D.R.Groombridge | 212 |
| CRICKET | P.W.Walters | 441 |
| FILM SOCIETY | R.Grigsby | 363 |
| FOOTBALL | P.W.Walters | 441 |
| GENEALOGY | J.M.R.Hagger | 268 |
| GOLF | P.Mercer | 349 |
| HORTICULTURAL | F.Walker | 279 |
| MODEL RAILWAY | J.M.R.Hagger | 268 |
| MOTOR | G.C.Taylor | 323 |
| MUSIC & THEATRE | R.Grigsby | 363 |
| PHOTOGRAPHIC | I.Fordham | 340 |
| SEA ANGLING | C.Buchan | 358 |
| SNOOKER | G.F.Holder | 347 |
| TECHNICAL SOCIETY | I.O.Wilson | 286 |
| WINE & BEER | P.W.Walters | 441 |

If you are interested in any of these sections would you please ring the relevant section secretary.

SECTION REPORTS

GENEALOGY SECTION

IGI MICROFICHE

The next block of fiche to be ordered will cover Berkshire, Dorset, Huntingdon and Lincoln. This will give the section complete coverage of Eastern and S.E. England from Lincoln round to Sussex, together with the four South-Western counties, and Cheshire and Lancashire. The four additions should be available about mid-year, and will be in the new updated versions.

Anyone not familiar with this valuable aid to family history research can contact Mike Hagger (ex. 268) for details.

Significant Dates for Genealogists

Successful genealogical and family history research requires, amongst other things, a knowledge of available historical documentation and when it began. A list of dates relating to such documentation has been compiled, and copies are available from Mike Hagger.

MOTORING SECTION

Additions to the Tool Cupboard

We now have a heavy discharge battery tester which measures the battery voltage when discharging at about 200 amps; this is equivalent to a cold starting load. So don't rush out and buy a new battery without testing the old one first or your 'cure' may only last a week.

When you cross-thread the spark plug in your aluminium cylinder head all is not lost, we now have a 'thread chaser' for 14 mm and 18 mm spark plug sockets.

Changing wheel cylinders on a hydraulic brake system can cause problems when the fluid in the reservoir runs out all over the floor! We now have a flexible hose clamp which will help prevent this. It will also prevent you "chewing a hole" in the rubber hose when using a pair of 'Molegrips'.

G.C. Taylor

HOME COMPUTING

The Home Computing section is still operating on an informal basis and would like to hear from users who have ideas or problems to discuss. Quite possibly there are users unknown to each other but who have the same interests. The section can act as a focal point and perhaps bring those with similar interests together. So initially please contact Denis Groombridge or Peter Walton, both on extension 212.

FOR SALE

We have for sale good quality

| | | |
|---------------------|--------------|----------------|
| C15 cassettes | @ 0.50p each | (£4.70 for 10) |
| 5.25" Discs S/S D/D | @ £1.50 each | |
| 5.25" Discs D/S D/D | @ £2.10 each | |

The number of discs available is limited but can be increased should there be sufficient demand.

FOR HIRE

For those of you with a BBC micro fitted with a disc operating system, we now have a 40/80 track single-sided (200K) disc drive which can be loaned out on short time hire.

Oric (Atmos) and Sinclair Spectrum owners.....
did you know that an Oric Users Group has been established at BREL
and plans are afoot to establish a Spectrum Users Group? Both
groups will operate in parallel with the existing Computer Section
of the Social Club.

The aims of both Groups are to promote the exchange of
ideas and information about their respective machines, as well as
to iron out programming problems and the like.

If anyone is interested, please contact:-

Ted Morrison/John Wilson/Peter Walters - Oric Users Group;
David Green (ext.219) - Spectrum Users Group.

Sea Angling Section

The Sea Angling Section has organized three wrecking trips
so far this season from Brighton, with one of these being cancelled
owing to bad weather.

The first trip, attended by BREL Section members together
with two guests from BDN, on the 13th May, proved quite successful
after an unpromising overcast and wet start from London. As has
been the case on a number of previous occasions once past the
South Downs the weather improved, with the sun burning off most of
the cloud cover. At Brighton Marina the wind was light southerly
with the sea being correspondingly slight.

Two wrecks were fished about mid-channel, past the north
bound sea-lane and a good haul of Cod, Ling and Pollock were taken
using drift fishing techniques. The best fish boarded was a Cod
of 24 lb, with the best individual member's catch of 60 lb. In
total a 134 lb of fish were caught - a satisfying start to the season.

The next trip on the 11th June was not quite so successful
as the weather failed to oblige to improve south of the Downs. The
fish, no doubt, sensing the poor weather above refused to be 'lured'
with only a half-dozen individuals comprising Cod, Ling, Pout and
Pollock were taken from the wreck. Numbers were made up however
with the first of the summer's Mackerel.

The return to the Marina was unfortunately hastened by
deteriorating weather, but was enlivened by a following sea. The
party debarked, somewhat moist in parts, but spirits undampened.

The next trip is booked for the second of August with
another in early September, these trips will hopefully feature
other methods of fishing and species of fish, with Conger-eels
being an added attraction, as the season progresses.

New members are welcome and club tackle is available,
if so required.

C. Buchan 358