

Nov 1984 Employment 19379

MARCONI AVIONICS NEWS

House Journal of Marconi Avionics Limited

OUR MOTTO FOR THE MONTH
 "So many men, so many opinions; his own a law to each."

Marconi Avionics sets up office in Yeovil

Engineering team under contract to Westland on latest helicopter programme.

Marconi Avionics Limited has opened an office in Yeovil, for its engineering team, which is carrying out project definition work on avionics for the new Westland WG-34 long-range helicopter. The team is under contract to Westland Helicopters Limited as their prime avionics system contractor for the integration of the advanced avionics systems now being defined for the WG-34.

The office at Prestleigh House, Hendford, was opened by Mr. P.A. Hearne, MSc., FRAeS, Director and General Manager of Marconi Avionics, in the presence of senior executives of Westland. The opening officially took place at 5.00 pm on Monday, 27 November.

Initially, a team of ten led by Mr. Howard Jones, Marconi's

Programme Manager for WG-34 avionics, will occupy the site and this team will expand in size as the project moves from the project definition to the development, flight trials and latterly, production phases. It is equipped with telex communications and a direct telephone link with the Westland plant, half a mile away. The interior of the new office has been specially refurbished by local contractors. Both telex and computer terminals, linked direct to the Marconi computing facilities in Kent, will be installed.

The office will be administered by Jackie Gingell, whose husband Geoff is a senior Development Engineer on the project. Members of the team not already resident are now in process of moving to the area.



The photograph shows Mr. Peter Hearne, Director and General Manager of Marconi Avionics, toasting the success of the venture with (right) Dr. Geoff Jones, Director of Advanced Engineering, Westland Helicopters Limited. They are flanked by (L to R): Mr. Dick Tracey, Project Leader WG-34 (Westlands); Mr. Edwin Guttridge, Programme Manager, (Westlands); Dr. Martin Lawson, Chief Scientist, (Westlands); Mr. Jim Bradley, Mr. Mike Harden, Project Manager, (Marconi Avionics); Mr. Paul Rayner, Divisional Manager, Maritime Aircraft Systems Division (Marconi Avionics); Mr. Scott Roy, Project Leader WG-34, (Westlands); Mr. John McMahon, Project Controller, (Marconi Avionics); Mr. Jackie Gingell, Secretary to Project Manager, (Marconi Avionics); Mr. Chris Cook, Project Manager, WG-34, (Westlands); Mr. Richard Smith, Project Leader, WG-34, (Westlands); Mr. John Bolton, Project Manager, (Marconi Avionics); Mr. Howard Jones, Programme Manager, (Marconi Avionics); Mr. Eric Taylor, Chief Company Pilot, (Marconi Avionics).



Picture shows (L to R): Mr. John Bolton, Project Manager, (Marconi Avionics); Mr. Brian Sherwood-Jones, (Westlands); Mr. Dick Tracey, Project Leader WG-34, (Westlands); Mr. Richard Smith, Project Leader WG-34, (Westlands); Mr. Howard Jones, Programme Manager, (Marconi Avionics); Mr. Jackie Gingell, Project Engineer, (Marconi Avionics); Mr. John McMahon, Project Controller, (Marconi Avionics); Mr. Scott Roy, Project Leader, (Westlands); Mr. Mike Harden, Project Manager, (Marconi Avionics); Mr. Jim Bradley.

YOUR NEWSPAPER

This is YOUR newspaper, and we want you to feel that you belong. Many of you have very definite ideas on how we ought to operate, but no-one else knows! Or you see something happening with which you are in disagreement, or maybe fully support, or would like to get involved in, but don't know where, or when or how.

So why not write and tell us?
 Don't keep your moans to yourself, likewise let us know your praises and encouragements.

Remember, a joy shared is a joy doubled, but a trouble shared is a trouble halved. You will find us good listeners!!

We ask only one thing - please give your name and division (which need not necessarily be for publication - but is in good faith) when writing. Address all letters to The Editor.

ST. WILLIAM'S HOSPITAL APPEAL

This appeal has done very well so far, and we would like to express our sincere thanks to all those who contributed and to those who organized divisional or departmental collections.

The appeal will be closed at the end of March so if you are intending to make a collection, or a personal donation, please do so as soon as possible.

Can we reach a target of £120?

We gratefully acknowledge the following donations to date:

R. Petts, IND Cost & Budget	£0.30
Training Centre, Hopewell Drive per B. Wallington (all members of the centre contributed)	£10.28
Norma Crick, ATED	£1.00
CQD, Flying School - collection per Thelma Gooch	£4.53
Mrs. Osborne, FCD Production	£0.40
Mr. Workman, FCD Production	£0.25
AS & R collection per Graeme White-Winchester	£14.67
ADD Production collection per A. Daniels	£16.00
Carol Service Collection	£30.00
Jay Gee	£1.00
MASD collection per Rod Cole	£9.12
Total	£87.55

Chinese Minister visits Marconi Avionics

Mr. Lu Tung, the Chinese Minister for the Third Ministry of Machine Building, visited Marconi Avionics Limited with a delegation of aviation experts and advisors, on Monday 18 December. Mr. Lu Tung, who is responsible for aviation matters, visited the Company's principal factory at Airport Works, Rochester, during a two-week tour of Britain's major industrial companies and government organizations concerned with aviation.

The Minister was in Britain for two weeks as the guest of the Secretary of State for Trade, Mr. John

Smith. During this time the delegation discussed many aspects of the aviation industry, including aircraft, aero engines, avionics, research and development, production, management techniques and training.

As Britain's biggest exporter of aviation electronics, Marconi Avionics presented examples of its wide

range of products, for the navigation, guidance, control and safe operation of all kinds of aircraft. The Managing Director of the Company, Mr. Jack Pateman CBE, described the Company's principal activities and the delegation saw an exhibition of the product range from the factories at Basildon, Borehamwood and Rochester.



The visitors show an interest in the special exhibit, while Mr. Pateman gives the explanation.



Mr. P. Hearne (Director) makes a point to the interpreter whilst the delegation look on.



The interpreter points out a special feature to Mr. Lu Tung.

The Old Mill, Tonge

BIRTHPLACE OF THE NATION!



Here - if historians are to be believed, took place the first uniting of the Angles and Saxons, and even earlier, this was the site of a Roman station.

Although no conclusive proof has yet appeared, everything points to this spot as being the site of the lost Roman Station of DUROLEVUM, mentioned in the Itinerary of the Emperor Antoninus as being on the Watling Street midway between Durobrivis (Rochester) and Darovernum (Canterbury). This spot is almost at the exact half-way mark. It has the essential stream. It adjoins Watling Street. There are plenty of escarpments and distinctive and peculiar roads. The Lower Road, as we know it, is a very ancient road - older than Watling Street, and this curves fortunately past the Old Mill. A Roman burial ground was found in the brick earth dug here; an interesting prospect for those concerned with our early history.

However, the climax of this little place came after the final departure of the Romans, when Vortigern was King of Britain. In those troubled times he turned for aid to the Saxons, and Hengist and Horsa, "bothe verie valient captains" made their first visit to these shores, bringing 1,500 men to aid the Britons against the Picts and Scots, in A.D. 449.

They did well, the combined force gaining a complete victory in A.D. 450. Hengist had, beside fighting, observed the rich and fertile soil of the country, and at the conference set up after victory, craftily suggested to King Vortigern that he and his men should stay awhile, against the inevitable rebuilding of the Scots army.

A dilemma for the King, but Vortigern was eventually persuaded to give Hengist a Hide of Land, and that more reinforcements be brought from the Continent. Tradition says that the site of this gift is at Tonge Mill.

A "Hide" extends to about 80 acres. A bull's hide is obtained, and by cutting round and round in narrow strips like leather bootlaces, a great length of "thong" results. Laid out in a rough circle and joined end to end until all the thong is used up and the last piece meets the piece at the starting point. Thus Durolevum became Thwongaster, in Domesday Book. Tanja, and today, Tonge.

Here Hengist built a castle, on a mound beside the waterway from the Swale. The little millstream of today must then have been a navigable stretch, and Hengist would have had no difficulty in sailing right up to the castle with his 17 ships, 5,000 men, and a most precious cargo, the beautiful daughter of Hengist, princess Rowena.

A great welcome awaited them. Vortigern and all the great people were there. The banquet was set. Justice had been done to the good meat and drink. Everyone was satisfied. The precise moment had arrived for the entrance of Rowena, a vision of beauty with her floating flaxen hair. She immediately caught the eye of Vortigern. Our own historian Lambard writes of Rowena that she "most amiable presented him (Vortigern) with a goblet of wine, saying in her own language Wassail Lord King, that is to say be merrie Lord King; the king was so delighted that he answered her again, Drink merrily - and from thence forth he could never be in rest until he had obtained her to wife."

Obtain her he did, and the marriage settlement established Hengist King of Kent, and his fellow Saxons a permanent place in Britain.

Today, a visit to tranquil Tonge will reveal little of those turbulent times. The ducks happily stall the mill pond beside the mound where once stood Tonge castle. The water from the Leat splashes merrily through a pretty walled garden of the mill house. An old weather-boarded corn mill leans back as if in horror at its 19th century successor.

The present owners, anxious to maintain and restore this lovely place, and to make it once again a living part of our heritage, have opened a Crafts Centre in the former stables. Here may be seen and purchased all manner of handcrafted work, made by artists and craftsmen most of whom are "local" - descendants perhaps of those same Angles and Saxons who here first joined in "Wassail - be of good health".

Extracts from - "The Ancient History of Tonge" by Walter F. Wood, Lambard's History of Kent.

OLD MILL, TONGE

The 'heritage' centre at Old Mill, Tonge, is now open daily from 10 am to 5 pm and evenings 7 pm to 9 pm, except Sundays.

Other times by appointment. Works on display and for sale include: BATIK,

BRONZES, DRAWINGS, DECORATED EGGS, EMBROIDERY, ENGRAVED GLASS, HAND-MADE FURNITURE, JEWELLERY, LEATHER-WORK, PAINTINGS, POTTERY, PRINTS, PULLED THREAD, SCULPTURE, TAPESTRY WEAVING AND TOYS.

MARRIAGES

In **Baines**, a former apprentice, now a Production Engineer in FCD, married B. Loft, an Accounts Clerk with Alan G. Smith (Gravesend), on Saturday 17 February 1979, at St. George's Church, Gravesend.

The following marriages have been arranged:
24 February **Michael Codling** to **Jacqueline Gadd**, both of ISD Drawing Office.

3 March **Dawn Haystead** of ISD Drawing Office to **Robert Sutton** of FCD Tool D.O.

10 March **David Murrell** of ISD Drawing Office to Kim Buckfield.

17 March **Lee Harding** of ISD Drawing Office to Susan Marsh.

BIRTHS

A New Year's day present to **Stella and John Barton**, by the gift of a granddaughter, **Claire**, who arrived at 3.40 am in All Saints Hospital, weighing 7lb 3 oz. The proud parents are Stella and Stephen Austin. John Barton works in MASD DO and Stella Barton is in Gyro Inspection.

To **Janice and Bill Ballard** (ADD) the gift of a son **Peter David** - 8lb 11oz on 9 January. Janice worked in CQD.

ANNIVERSARIES

The following anniversaries were celebrated during December:
Mr. and Mrs. Bert Hoggart, formerly IN Division, Silver wedding - 25 years.

Mr. and Mrs. Shardlow, Ruby Wedding - 40 years.

Mr. and Mrs. Boorman, formerly CMS, 48 years of marriage.

Mr. and Mrs. Hall, 49 years of marriage.

Mr. and Mrs. H. Dyer, formerly in Gyro, 56 years of marriage. (Selina and Harry have one daughter, two grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.)

IN MEMORIAM

We deeply regret to record the passing of the following employees, and extend our sympathy to families and friends.

Edward Diamond, at the age of 63, died suddenly on 17 January. He joined the Company on 31 August 1959 in the Accounts Dept. At the time of his death he was a Section Leader in the Wages Dept.

Jack Tranter, who died on 20 January at St. Barts Hospital. Jack had recently completed his 25 years' service, and had been ill for only a short while. He had lost his brother and mother within the past few months. Jack was Storekeeper in ADD, and was formerly in FUSE.

Brian Rogers at the age of 53 died in Joyce Green Hospital, Dartford, after a short illness, on 29 January. He joined the Company in 1964, in TAC, after serving in the Merchant Navy as a wireless operator. In TAC he became a chargehand in Test Department, and continued in that position when TAC and MAC became FCD. Always a cheerful personality, he was much liked and will be sadly missed by all his colleagues and friends. He was married with three married daughters.

After a long illness, borne with great fortitude, **Jim Cook** passed away on 21 January. He was for many years Chief Librarian of Mav Library, and it is due to his energy and resourcefulness that the Library holds the position it does today. He leaves a widow and family.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Congratulations on the completion of the first year's publication of *Marconi News*, and many thanks for regular postings to me of the same.

We are getting along very well and I have joined the local Model Engineering Society, which is very much alive and has plenty of projects in being and others in mind, subject to finances.

An extension to the garage recently completed, makes a very good workshop to enable me to pursue my hobby. Many thanks to you and kind regards to all.

Yours faithfully,

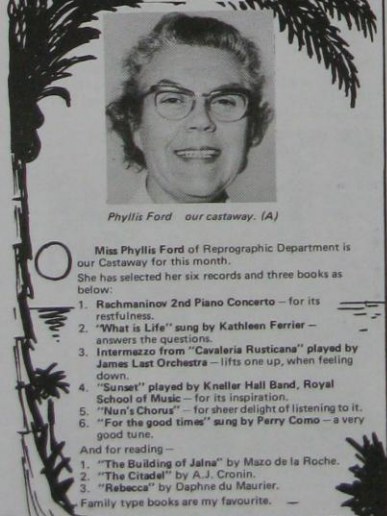
Aubrey Bakewell

13 Coed yr Yru,

Rhiwbina,

Cardiff CF4 6PH.

CASTAWAY



Phyllis Ford - our castaway. (A)

Miss Phyllis Ford of Reprographic Department is our Castaway for this month. She has selected her six records and three books as below:

1. Rachmaninov 2nd Piano Concerto - for its restfulness.
2. "What is Life" sung by Kathleen Ferrier - answers the questions.
3. Intermezzo from "Cavalleria Rusticana" played by James Last Orchestra - lifts one up, when feeling down.
4. "Sunset" played by Knefler Hall Band, Royal School of Music - for its inspiration.
5. "Nun's Chorus" - for sheer delight of listening to it.
6. "For the good times" sung by Perry Como - a very good tune.

And for reading -

1. "The Building of Janna" by Mazo de la Roche.
2. "The Citadel" by A.J. Cronin.
3. "Rebecca" by Daphne du Maurier.

Family type books are my favourite.

Where are they now?



Miss Mutton sitting extreme right, showing her vitality in retirement. (A)

Miss Mutton, who retired some five years ago, is still in touch with things, as she is the catering officer for the 65 club.

She keeps fit and well, and spends her spare time in looking after other people, does voluntary work running the tea bar at the hospital, visiting sick and old folk, and doing errands for those unable to get about. This keeps her busy to the extent that she has no time to think of herself. Her only regret being that time goes by so quickly, but she enjoys it all.

She has asked that her greetings and best wishes be given to all old friends whom she has not seen recently.



Bill Hobson. (A)

Bill Hobson, formerly Materials Controller in FUSE and one of the original Swift and Swallow people, is enjoying his retirement to the full. For those of his colleagues and friends, he has given up golf - as he is far too busy doing other things.

Bill is in part-time employment, helping out in an insurance office during the mornings, while he also enjoys as much fishing as he can fit in. In addition, he has taken up a new hobby - painting in oils - and has succeeded to a remarkable degree. He comments that it is strange to find talents one did not know one had, so with this and his gardening and caravanning he enjoys a full and satisfying life.

NAMES TO FACES

THE NURSING STAFF – ROCHESTER ESTABLISHMENT

A nurse working in industry has an important role to fill. Industrial nursing has been defined as: Application of nursing skills to a group of men and women at their place of work, for the purpose of helping them to build and maintain their best health, and rendering of prompt and efficient nursing assistance when they become ill or are injured.

A nurse entering industry comes equipped with a recognized professional training. This means she will bring to her task trained powers of observation, skill and techniques already learned for dealing with particular matters that will be her concern in the health department.

It is incumbent upon the Nurse to acquaint herself with any specific hazard particular to the industry employing her services.

At Rochester we can boast a low accident rate indicating that the Nursing Staff play a considerable part in helping to maintain this standard.

Apart from the trained nurses we have a complement of First Aiders throughout the factory covering the night shift personnel, and all security guards are First Aid -trained persons and capable of dealing with emergencies.

Mrs. Iris Gordon, Sister-in-charge of Surgines, has the responsibility of general day to day administration of the medical department, organizing duty rota, medical examinations and assisting with the training of first aiders required throughout the establishment. She is assisted by a team of nurses. Mrs. Gordon trained as a nurse at the Lewisham Hospital which was preceded by a midwifery course at St Giles, Camberwell.

Mrs. Veronica Donaghue joined the Company in 1974 after completing her training at a local hospital.

Mrs. Phyllis Mead also trained at a local hospital and joined the Company in July 1977.

Mrs. Joan Stabler after training at the Royal Beaton Memorial Hospital moved into the Medway Towns and started employment with the Company in October 1975.

Mrs. Janet Williams started her training at Cardiff Royal Infirmary and at present is on maternity leave. She joined the Company in September 1975.

Mrs. Joanna Winning trained under the Thanet Hospital group and commenced employment at Rochester in October 1974.

Miss Ellen Knott trained in London and works part-time to cover Saturday mornings overtime.



Mrs. Gordon, Sister-in-charge.



Veronica Donaghue



Mrs. Phyllis Mead



Mrs. Joan Stabler



Mrs. Janet Williams



Mrs. Joanna Winning



Miss Ellen Knott

FORMER COLLEAGUES REUNITE AT MEDWAY'S FLYING BOAT LECTURE

A lecture by Captain J.C. Kelly Rogers OBE, FRAeS, given to the Medway Branch of the Royal Aeronautical Society on 13 December was attended by an audience of 400, despite very inclement weather that evening. Entitled "Flying Boats and their Operations" it dealt with the important contributions made by these aircraft to the development of air transport, and was as well illustrated by accounts of the author's personal experiences as by slides from his own collection.

The lecture was given in the main canteen of Marconi Avionics at Airport Works, Rochester. It was preceded by a reception given for former employees of Short Brothers, at which the President of the Shorts '25 years plus' association, Mr. George Stanley, and the officers of his committee were present.

Captain Kelly Rogers commanded the first scheduled two-way transatlantic operation to be made by a European operator, carrying mail in 1939 and passengers the following year. His account included his experiences flying Shorts Calcutta and Empire class boats and during the war Boeing 314 Clippers in which he flew the British Prime Minister, Winston Churchill, on all his transatlantic flights.

At the end of a talk full of humorous anecdotes, he paid tribute to his friend of many years, Captain Charles Blair of Air Antilles, whose loss earlier in the year was mourned by so many.

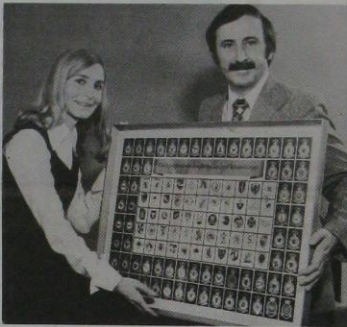
The Medway Branch is actively working to bring a Sandringham flying boat of Air Antilles to Medway, as a memorial to Captain Blair and to the people who built so many fine flying boats there.

BATTLE OF BRITAIN SOUVENIR

This framed illustration of the Crests of all the Squadrons, British and German, who took part in the Battle of Britain 1940, is to have a place of honour in the reception foyer of Marconi Avionics Ltd., Rochester.

The Souvenir was presented to the Medway Branch of the Royal Aeronautical Society on 8 November by Wing Commander Colin Campbell, RAF, Officer Commanding RAF Manston.

Pictured are Brenda Jewell (Branch Assistant Secretary) and Malcolm Moulton (Branch Chairman).



(Picture by Reprographic Dept., Rochester.)

IN THE NEWS

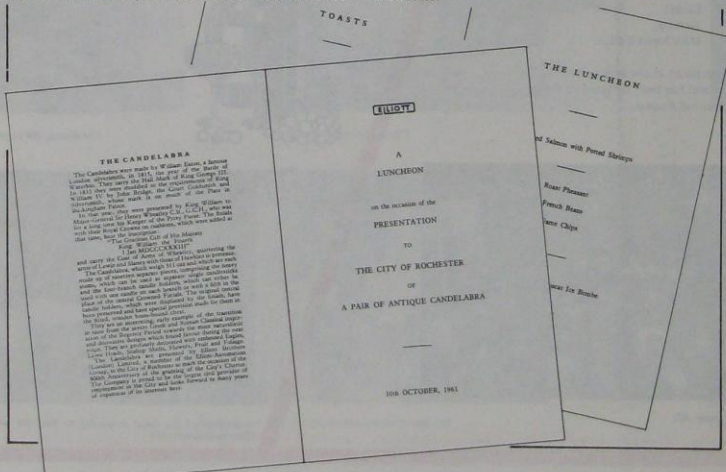
CITY OF ROCHESTER – SILVER CANDELABRA

In 1961, to mark the 900th Anniversary of the Granting of the City Charter, the then corporation appealed to the local business community for gifts to help celebrate the occasion. Elliott Bros (London) Ltd, responded to the appeal by arranging to donate a pair of antique candelabra.

We reproduce herewith, a copy of the menu card used on the occasion of the presentation on 10 October 1961, together with a descriptive note about the candelabra itself.

The interest was stimulated by a letter to the Editor in the January 1979 edition of MAV News, and we acknowledge our indebtedness to Mr. Sid Randall of ECV for information, and to Mr. S. Williams, Works Engineer, for supplying the menu card details.

It is our intention to publish a photograph of this and any other items donated to the City, by the Company, in due course.



APPRENTICES

The completion of one's apprenticeship, and emerging as a fully-trained craftsman, is a milestone in one's life. In recognition of this, we shall publish a list of persons who have completed their training, and indicate where they have been allocated to use their skills and knowledge.

- The first list is:
B. GOWER completed 18.12.78 to ATE D/O.
R. ROCKEY completed 18.12.78 to ATE Insp.
G. WEST completed 3.12.78 to AS&R Inst. Fitter.

Training Scheme Successes

Once again members of the Training Scheme have been able to demonstrate the value of their training by receiving regrading due to their progress up to date, Miss Carol Paul, Mr. K.R. Dumig and Mr. R. Stannard. All 3rd Year electronic technician apprentices, have been regraded to student apprentices, and will be attending Thames Polytechnic to take a full time B.Sc. course.

We offer our congratulations to them, and wish them every success in their future studies and work. The continuation of hard work and dedication in their chosen profession will bring its final reward, as it has up to this stage.

Appointments

The following internal appointments are announced:

- J. Read** as Production Superintendent, ADD.
- J. Talbot** as Engineering Manager, MASD.
- J. Catford** as Engineering Manager, FARL.
- A. Alexander** as Engineering Manager, FARL.
- Miss. K. Stirling** as Sub-section Leader of the Personnel Records Department. Miss. Stirling will report to Mrs. Fennell and will deputize for her in her absence.
- D.A. Freeman** as Deputy Works Engineer (as from 2 January 1979).
- M. Huntley-Chipper** as Head of Scheduling, FCD (as from 5 February).
- F.W. Murton** as Production Administration Officer, FCD (as from 5 February).

65 Club Annual Pa



INDUSTRIAL CAROL SERVICE



Some of the congregation. (C)



From up on high. (C)



Baptist Church Minstrel Music Group Rendering one of their items, as Bert Snoswell waits to do his reading. (C)

The first Industrial Carol Service, which the Elliott Sports & Social Club sponsored, got off to a very good start in spite of inclement weather prevailing on the date. Upwards of 100 people turned up, families being much in evidence.

The service was led by the Rev. Tom Rogers, Minister of Green Street Baptist Church, Gillingham, where the service was held. The singing was led by the Elliott Concert Brass Band, under their conductor Bill Skinner, and the Baptist Church Music Group gave a selection of modern carols and Christmas songs. Readings from the Bible were given by:

Cyril Cawley, Works Engineering; Director;
Alf Harrison, Training;
Arthur Ellis, ECV (Chairman Sports Club);
Bert Snoswell, Welfare;

Mrs. Fisher, MAv News Editor;
Jess Griffiths, MAv News Editor;
Rev. T. Rogers.

The collection taken at the service was made up to £30 and has been donated to the St. William's Hospital Appeal.



Carolling along. (C)



Mr. & Mrs. Harry Staff with members of the 65 Club. (A)



65 Club Annual Dinner. (A)



More happy people. (A)



Getting on with it. (A)



Trying his luck during a break in the party-time. (A)



The spirit of the party. (A)



The diners, the band and the...



A section of the band preparing to lead the singing at Christmas lunch. (C)

Party 1978

The Annual Christmas Party was held at the clubhouse on the 12 December. A large crowd sat down to an excellent meal to which justice was amply done. Dancing, competitions and bingo followed. Music for dancing and for the carol singing was provided by Arthur Brown and his music.

A most happy evening with everyone enjoying themselves to the full. Our photographs show the festive spirit which had gripped the audience.



Happy mood. (A)



A pause for the photograph. (A)



Snapped at the table. (A)



It's serious business. (A)



65 Club officers and helpers. (A)

1978 Christmas Lunch



An FCD group at the Christmas lunch. (C)



the setting. (C)



The plates get piled up. (C)



The choir in full song. (C)



at the



It's funny, as well as nice, at the annual lunch. (C)



Christmas lunch enjoyment. (C)

RETIREMENTS

Kathleen Higgins spent a happy 165 years at Rochester before deciding to call it a day and concentrate her energies in helping her husband, who had also retired due to ill health. He worked in Fishers.

Kathleen says she will now revert to being just a housewife, which will be a significant change from her work in Printed Circuit Dept., and the Anodising Process Dept. of GMS. She is the mother of two boys, one of whom is a policeman and the other a bank official in London. She has two grandchildren, one boy and one girl.

To mark her retirement, and to show the esteem in which she was held by her colleagues and friends, a presentation was made of two sun lounge beds. Mr. Burrow, in making the presentation, wished her well in her retirement and hoped that there were many years ahead for her to enjoy.



Kathleen Higgins. (B)

John Dunn retired from AS & R Division on the 12 January 1979 after 21 years' service with the Company. He was presented with a Sekonda digital watch by Mr. J. Henley. A few friends were present as, unfortunately, John was in St. Bartholomew's at the time recovering from a mild stroke. John's main interests are horse racing and cricket.

He will be remembered by his friends and colleagues as a very hardworking and conscientious man with a keen sense of humour.

After ten years in AS & R William Ernest Broadhurst finally retired, at 70 years of age, though he regretted that he had to give up as he was very happy at work. His decision was made because of his wife's illness, which had made her bedridden, and he felt his duty was to help her as much as he could.

He had got around a bit, for 25 years he had worked at the dockyard, which was followed by eight years with Chatham Council. He has worked in Birmingham, for London BAC and at Liverpool Street Station. His initial work was for W.H. Smith & Sons, the booksellers at 3/6d (18p) per week!

The gifts subscribed for by members of the division, to mark the retirement, reflect the esteem in which he was held. They were a powder mug, an electric kettle and a watch (with a London movement). On behalf of all subscribers and well wishers, the presentation was made by Mr. Norman Robson, AS & R Material Controller.



Bill Broadhurst and friends. (C)

"Did we 'fork' out for that?" was a question posed by one of the IN Division workers, jocularly referring to the assortment of tools which were presented to Wilfred (Bill) Stanley Lintern, to mark his retirement. He had been with the Company for 27 years and came to this site on joining Swift & Swallow.

Proud of being a Welshman, he retained his accent and with a joviality which was 'catching', he became a well known and well respected member of the work force.

His early record covered a period of time with Bristol Aeroplane Company at Gloucester, which was succeeded for a time with Pobjoys and Shorts. He worked on Spitfires during the War and also had a period of evacuation to Bedford. On return to Medway, at the end of hostilities, he joined Morrisons who had occupied the old Pobjoy works, before leaving to come over the fence to Swift & Swallow. A mechanical man, Taffy began in MER and on the formation of IN from that division, he became one of the early IN members and remained a member of the division coping with the changes, not only in design, but type and scope of the products. A keen sportsman, and true to his Welsh upbringing, he was a devoted rugby player, and he is proud to acknowledge that he was a founder member of Rochester Rugby Club, now renamed Medway Rugby Club.

On presenting the assortment of gardening tools, Mr. D.H. Harries noted that by encouraging him to dig, they may help to keep him fit, by reducing that weight which he had carried for so long. When replying, Bill said how he had enjoyed his years with the Company, and much appreciated all the help and encouragement which he had received from a large number of people over the years. He would now be able to follow his hobbies (which he did not disclose) and would always think of his time at the works, and the people he had worked with.

Finally, he summed it all up by saying that he thanked everyone, for the gifts and good wishes, "and for putting up with me for 27 years."



Bill Lintern produces his usual smile for the camera while Mr. D.H. Harries seems about to say something. (B)

Mrs. May Phyllis Higgins, who recently celebrated her Ruby Wedding, had another celebration when she decided to exchange stores requisitions for a household shopping list! For the past 18 years May had journeyed up to the Airport; the first 11 years being spent in TAC, on wiring cable forms; and for the latter seven years working in IN stores department. Now she has decided to retire.

Her immediate plans are to just remain at home, and see more of her grandchildren, who live at High Halstow, and enjoy being free from the control of time scales and rushes applicable to keeping industry running.

To mark her retirement, on behalf of the Division, Mr. D.H. Harries presented May with a transistor radio and floral arrangement and, from her immediate colleagues in the stores, a brooch.

The change from cable forming to working in the stores took some getting used to, but she took it in her stride and became a valued member of an important team.

She will still keep close to the Rochester site as her husband, John Higgins, is still with us working at the Hangar Estate at the Flying School.

The best wishes of all go with her in her retirement.



Mrs. May Higgins with colleagues, on the occasion of her retirement. (A)

25 YEARS' SERVICE

Ken Hopkins, at one time secretary of FCD Joint Production Committee, has completed his 25 years unbroken service with the Company and has been rewarded by the presentation of a canteen of cutlery to mark the occasion. This was presented to him by Mr. D.I. Jackson, in the presence of a large number of fellow workers and friends.

Ken is employed in FCD Machine Shop, and on joining Elliotts began his career in the familiar MER. On the emergence of Aviation products and Divisions, Ken was brought into the new product sphere and through Aviation Division passed on to MAC, FID and back to FCD.

He previously held appointments with London Transformers as a machinist. A former serviceman, he was in the Army as a bugler, and became a sergeant in the West Kent - Queen's Own Regiment.

Not the tallest of men, he epitomizes the old adage, what he lacks in height he makes up in quality.



Ken Hopkins with management and friends. (A)

A link with the past is enshrined by the service of W. Cowley, ATE Test Equipment Officer in FCD. The span of his service covers 42 years, but due to a period of RAF Service from 1943 to 1947, and then with Sangamo-Weston, he has recently qualified for his 25 years' unbroken service award.

He began his working life as a boy of 14 years at New Cross in 1937 and was an assembler. In 1943 he joined the RAF serving until 1947. During this period his parents returned to the Medway Towns, to carry on their business as shopkeepers, and in 1948 he rejoined Elliotts and commuted to Lewisham before joining Sangamo-Weston. He then returned to his first love, and began his work at the Rochester site where he has remained for the past 25 years, starting in January 1954.

His activities have been concentrated on instrumentation as Fitter, Inspector, Application Engineer, through Aviation Division, TAC in 1960 and on to Auto Test Equipment in 1969. On the merger of TAC with MAC, he joined FCD in the same capacity. He recalls some of the early aircraft carrying equipment with which he was associated, among those early ones being the NEPTUNE, the equipment for which had valves among the components, which caused the whole system to be large and bulky as compared with the small compact units of today.

He received his chosen gift of a clock, at the hands of Mr. D.I. Jackson Divisional Manager, surrounded by a large number of colleagues and friends. He commented that he was very pleased to receive the presentation but overwhelmed by the occasion.

"There have been many changes over the years, for instance, I can remember when we had to have coke braziers around the factory to get a little heat. It was never really warm, and the fumes became overpowering at times, but we just made the best of it and carried on." This was a comment

made by Tom Mason of AS & R when he recalled the early days at the presentation of his 25 years' award.

Tom is Quality Technician in AS & R where he has been since 1965. As so many others in those early days, he began work as an Instrument Fitter in MER, then moved to Aviation Model Shop and Laboratory specializing in ADS systems. After joining FID he became Foreman of the Capsule Shop, then after AS & R took over the ADS work, they had problems, so Tom, who had experienced many of the difficulties, transferred to make his knowledge and expertise available. His work has taken him to many sites and areas, to advise and assist customers.

He is married, and has three sons (one works for the Company and is currently the Works Convenor, another is in the Merchant Navy, and one is a Pipe Layer). There are also three granddaughters. Himself, a Shop Steward he also finds time for gardening, and is a devoted spectator of most sports.

On behalf of the Company, Mr. Eagles presented a Walnut Clock with the 'Elliott movement', which was the chosen gift.



Tom Mason with Harry Eagles. (C)

DOWN MEMORY LANE

Every time I undress, or take a bath, a stark reminder of a happening is before my eyes. This is a scar just under the left knee.

How it came to be there is a story which can be related and dates back some 60 years. A fatherless family, our mother was forced to go out to work, and being in a remote country village 'going out charring' was the only source of employment. This meant that the boys in our family (there were no daughters) had to help with the domestic chores in order to help mother in her task of breadwinner.

Saturdays was a special day, when the house was scrubbed from top to bottom, quite literally. No stair carpets, plain wood which had to be made as white as the proverbial snow and the old hob open grate, blacklead and polished so that one could see one's face in it.

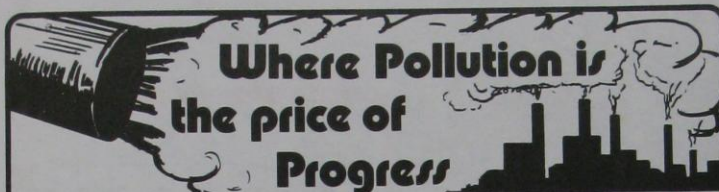
Then a treat—when mother came home at mid-day, with some special tit-bits of leftovers, from the big house where she was the daily help. The big house was on the outskirts of the village, about one mile away, and mother loved to have a freshly made cup of tea as soon as she got home. To make sure it was fresh, after the cleaning, the kettle was put on to boil. I was then despatched to the

'kissing gate' in the lane to look out and see when mother made her exit from the big house, and run back and get the tea made and the preparations complete. Beside the 'kissing gate' was an iron railing, which was about 18 inches higher than the gate; and to look further, use of the railings was made by standing on the top rail between the spikes.

For weeks this ritual was carried out and then the inevitable happened. In haste to get down, because mother was well on her way, I slipped and my left leg became impaled on one of the spikes. Releasing myself, with difficulty, I was amazed to find no bleeding! In pain, and on arrival at home, I noticed the 'hole'. It appears that the spike, in puncturing the leg had compressed the tissues, and it was some time before bleeding set in. The leg took time to heal and the hole is still there covered by a thin membrane of skin which threatens to break anytime, but it still holds secure even though it is still plainly visible.

In those days, boys of nine years old wore shorts and stockings up to the knee—but, as most men will remember, little boys were notorious for their stockings being around the ankles.

I have been horrified of spiked railings ever since.



Where Pollution is the price of Progress

In the last 25 years, Japan has achieved an economic miracle; now she faces a very different challenge. In Fuji city, Tosheiko Koda takes a bronze ten yen coin from the top of the bamboo ledge behind his house. "Only one month outside", he says, "and the coin is blackened and rusted."

Koda, a member of the city's protest movement against air pollution, continued "Iron and bronze are damaged by gas in the air, and young children grow up suffering from asthma, plants wither and die, the birds around Mount Fuji are decreasing." His sense of outrage reflects the mood of millions of Japanese, to whom Japan's industrial miracle of the post-war generation has been a blessing diluted by illnesses, epidemics of lung disease, general discomfort—

characterized by reddened stinging eyes, headaches, sore throats, coughs and periodic mass scares.

While Japan's gross national product has quadrupled during the 1960s up to £80,000 million for 1971, scientists and nature lovers have reported the extinction of several species of birds and death to hundreds of ducks, due to polluted rivers and lakes. Only a few wild animals survive lurking in mountainous national parks, far from industrialized regions, and fishermen have had to abandon the waters around major centres.

Statistics taken and condensed from the New York Times Magazine.
D.J. Roberts, CMS.

Holidays in England

A very interesting booklet has been produced by the English Tourist Board, to encourage British people to 'go away to England', entitled 'England—Holidays 1979'. It contains 104 pages of information and ideas for holidays to suit all tastes. There are photographs and articles on each region of England and a large section on 'easy to book' holidays includes details on more than 160 organizations covering every type of holiday: self-catering, farmhouse, holiday centres, camping and caravanning, package holidays at resorts, coach holidays, touring holidays, house parties, short breaks, activity and special interest holidays, and a new section on holidays for unaccompanied children. There is also a holiday planner, which describes 12 regions and 138 holiday towns from Ambleside to York.

Copies of the brochure can be obtained free from: 'England—Holidays '79', Hendon Road, Sunderland, SR9 9XZ.

DO YOU KNOW?

What do Foord Almshouses, Acorn Wharf and Medway Steam Packet Company have in common?

You probably know that Foord Almshouses, situated in Priestfields, Rochester is a distinctive group of dwellings for elderly people. Acorn Wharf is on the Medway (part of Stanley Wharves?) while the steamers no longer ply on the Medway.

We have acquired some interesting data on these three items and will be quoting such details from time to time. Meanwhile—if you know, or have any ideas what the common factor is, drop the Editor a line and tell him. No prizes are offered for the information!

QUOTATION

"When God breathed the breath of life into man's nostrils He consigned him the impossible for his vocation and the history of civilization which is one vast miracle, declares man's fitness for that high calling."

Prof. L.P. Jacks

Invitation to the Zoo

(by one slightly afflicted with stammering)

Come here the c-c-c-cockatoo's song,
Where mum-mum-mum-melody thro' the sweet vale.
Where the m-monkeys gig-gig-grin all the day long,
Or g-g-gracefully swing by the tit-tit-tit-tit-tail.

You can pip-pip-play there some did-did-delicate joke,
With the bub-bub-bear on the tit-tit-top of his pip-pip-pip-pole.

But observe 'tis for-for-for-forbidden to pip-pip-poke
At the bub-bub-bear on the tit-tit-top of his pip-pip-pip-pip-
parasol.

You will see the huge elephant pip-pip-pip-play,
You will gaze on the stit-tit-atelacy raccoon;
And then Tit-Tit-Tommy together will stray
To the c-c-cage of the bub-bub-blue fu-fu-faced bab-bab-
baboon.

Then c-c-come along Tom, n-n-n-never say nun-nun-nun-nay,
I'll tit-tit-treat you, my boy, to a bub-bub-bub-bus;
'Tis but a thrup-pip-pip-pip-pence a pip-pip-piece all the way
To see the hip-pip-pip (I beg your pardon),
To see the hip-pip-pip-pip (A—hem!)
The hip-hip-hip-hip-pip-pip-pip-pip-pip (I mean)
The hip-po-po-po (dear me, Tom, you know),
The hippo-pot-pot-pot (I'm my word I'm quite ashamed of myself),
The hip-pip-pip, the Hippo-pot,
To see the hippo-potamus.

This is not to ridicule anyone with a speech impediment (two of my own family are so afflicted) but to encourage those so afflicted to overcome the malady.



PERSONALITIES

Two personalities with differing stories are known to most employees, particularly those who use the canteen services. First we have **Gwen Rooman**, so called by everyone because they cannot pronounce her christian name - Welsh Irwen (pronounced I-Y-Wen, Irwen).

She has been 24 years in the canteen service, serving in the main hall, then on tea trolleys and now looking after Directors and Visitors.

Her interests outside work are gardening and sewing, being a much sought after seamstress. With a daughter living in Canada her horizon has widened and she found it possible to spend a holiday there some while ago. Her trip to Toronto, to see her five grandchildren of four girls and one boy, have her a thrill to last a lifetime, but in true Welsh fashion is determined it won't be the last transatlantic holiday.

Winifred Hill is the golden girl of Marconi Avionics, for she is often in the money. In the Autumn 1978, she was the £1,000 jackpot winner in the Medway lottery. This followed three £50 wins on the Gillingham lottery, and a £100 prize on another occasion. This is in addition to previous wins of five turkeys in one week! As a glamorous grandmother Winifred was a winner of a free holiday for two at Pontins Holiday Camp. Her golden touch is all the more remarkable, since she mostly takes the tickets, bought on her behalf by a colleague.

Her joviality is infectious to all who know her, but cannot be inspired by her daily tasks of vegetable preparation in the canteen; or maybe it's a case of being so cheerful that keeps her going.

Not only is her cheerfulness infectious, but her spirit of helpfulness is just as widespread. On receiving the £1,000 jackpot, she was planning to share it among her family and friends, because she says her philosophy is "being nice to each other", and she succeeds dramatically, even without the money.

Her family of a son with two grandchildren (both girls) enables her affections to be crystallized.

TRAVEL INFORMATION

Group rail fares to London are now £1.60 for groups of 10-39 people, £1.44 for groups of 40 or over.

Leaflets and details of bargain trips from January to May 1979 are now available.

Copies and all travel information can be obtained from Mrs. Lorna McPake, the Company Travel Manager.



Two recipes for the New Year, to make that tea-time something special. Not only are they economical, but simple to prepare and delicious to consume.

1) Tea Loaf

Ingredients: 1 breakfast cup of currants (approx. ½ pint)
1 breakfast cup of sultanas
1 breakfast cup of brown sugar
½ pint cold tea
1 egg
2 breakfast cups self-raising flour

Method:

Put all the fruit and sugar into a bowl, pour in the tea, stir well, cover and leave to stand overnight. Heat oven to 325°F (gas mark 3). Line a 2 lb loaf tin with greased greaseproof paper.

Stir into the mixture, the egg and flour, mixing thoroughly. Turn into the tin, and bake in oven for 1½ hours. Leave to cool in a wire rack. Serve either sliced with butter, or as it is.

2) Hereford Cake

Ingredients: ½ lb cooking apples
2 oz granulated sugar
6 oz self-raising flour
1 teaspoon baking powder
½ teaspoon ground ginger
½ teaspoon mixed spices
3 oz margarine
3 oz soft brown sugar
6 oz currants

Method:

Peel, core and slice the apples and place in a saucepan with the granulated sugar and 1 teaspoon of water. Cook over a low heat, stirring occasionally until a thick puree, then leave to become quite cold.

Well grease a 7" round cake tin and heat the oven to 400°F (gas mark 6). Sieve the flour, baking powder and spices into a bowl and rub in the margarine. Stir in the soft brown sugar and currants. Then add the apple puree, and mix thoroughly until a dropping consistency.

Turn into the tin, smooth the top and bake for 30 minutes, then reduce the heat to 325°F (gas mark 3) and cook for a further hour. Leave in tin for ½ hour before turning out. Leave to cool completely then store in an airtight tin for four days before cutting.

Sports and social club round up

GOLF SECTION

1978 has been yet another successful year for the golfers of Elliotts. They not only won with their skills but with the weather. Despite the disappointing summer the sun has shone almost uninterrupted on all but one of their outings. Teams representing Rochester once again returned from Scotland with the trophy, retained the Tri-site cup from Borehamwood and Basildon, beat B.P. and enjoyed a rare win against Reeds. But, despite threats of being transferred to the least desirable parts of the factory, the specially selected team to wreat the Harrison - Bygate cup from Dean Bygate for Alf Harrison once again failed and he returned in fear and disgrace.

Following the untimely death this year of Viv Young, an enthusiastic and popular Golf Society member, a cup in his memory was bought from donations by his many friends and acquaintances which will be competed for each year on Captain's day. Fergus Maloney, the first winner, was presented with the cup and a replica by Viv's widow, Mary, at the social and prize giving evening.

The individual winners this year were:

- Harrison Cup (singles K.O.) Dick Broomer
- Durrant Cup (doubles K.O.) Nigel Puckeridge and Julian Deakin
- Courage Cup Chris Gilbert
- Viv Young Memorial Cup Fergus Maloney
- Century Shield Julian Deakin
- Interdivisional Shield AS & R Division



Mary Young presenting the Viv Young Memorial Cup to Fergus Maloney. (A)



Alf Harrison with the Interdivisional Shield winners, AS & R Division. (A)



Alf Harrison presenting the Durrant Cup to Julian Deakin and Nigel Puckeridge. (A)

SWAP SHOP

If you have any articles you wish to dispose of and desire to obtain other items, why not declare your desires and intentions? Who knows, what you want to get rid of, may be just the item someone else is looking for. A parody of an old proverb could mean "that one man's cast offs can be another's blessing". Send details to the Editor, by 1st of the month.

ADVERTISEMENT

For disposal:

One set of 78 rpm auto-change records, 14 in all, comprising the whole of Handel's Messiah, by the Huddersfield Choral Society, with the late Sir Malcolm Sargent conducting. Enquiries to the Editor, marked 'Records'.

ARCHERY SECTION

1978 Club Championships.

The awards to club members, presented at the prize giving evening were:

SENIOR CLUB

- (1) Champion lady Avril Davies
- Champion gent Tony White
- Champion married couple Kath & Doug Wayman
- Handicap winner Marion Eaglestone
- (2) Founders (J. Milner & R. Bloodworth) American
- 1st Lady under 1st class Nell Davison
- 1st Gent under 1st class Tony White
- 1st Lady 1st class & over Avril Davies
- 1st Gent 1st class & over Brian Smith

JUNIOR CLUB

- Champion Junior Girl Debbie Labon
- Champion Junior Boy Alan Whiteland
- Champion Juvenile Girl Alison Giles
- Champion Juvenile Boy Ian Saunders
- Handicap 1st Girl Alison Giles
- Handicap 1st Boy Colin Rogers
- (3) Chairmans Cup Alan Whiteland

In the 6th Kentish Archery (Junior) Tournament, Elliott Juniors were placed 2nd after Gravesend juniors; but in the club Team (minor rounds) were placed 1st, receiving cup & medals.

The Albion shoot for boys put A. Whiteland and G. Guillon in 1st and 2nd places respectively, while the Best Handicap Improvement Medal went to Miss A. Giles.

The 10th Senior Kentish Archer Tournament saw Elliotts take 1st place in the major rounds for club teams. In the minor rounds competition Elliott Archers could only manage 4th place.

ATHLETIC SECTION

The Club now competes as the Elliott Athletic Club.

Officers for 1979 are:

- President Mr. W.H. Alexander
- Chairman R. Henderson
- Hon. Secretary F. L. Murphy
- Hon. Treasurer J.E. Smith
- Minute Secretary Mrs. C.S. Smith
- Team Managers Winter - R. Henderson
Summer - R.A. Clark
- Press Reporters I. Joyce, Alan Guilder and R. Peel
- Coaches D. Sharpley & J. Yarrow
- Transport Officers Winter - M. Jury
Summer - not appointed
- Social Secretary Mrs. Bennett
- Equipment Steward L. Martin
- Admin. Officer C. Bennett
- (Organizing Secretary) Summer - R. Clark
- Club Captain Winter - M. Jury
Mrs. L. Jones
- Enrolment Officers Mrs. Quraishis
- Additional Committee Members Alan Guilder, D. Minter and G. Saker

SAVE MONEY NOTE

As a member of the Institute of Travel Managers, we qualify for a very good discount at the Kensington Palace Hotel. £16.50 for single room with bath, £25.00 for twin room with bath.

For other money saving arrangements, in hotels or travel, contact Mrs. Lorna McPake, Travel Manager, on internal 894.

ATHLETICS PROGRAMME!

Date	Fixture	Venue
Mar 3	National (Y.J.S.)	Luton
10	Tonbridge 10.	Tonbridge
17	Cambridge Road Relay (Y.J.S.)	
23	Havering Road Relays (C.B.V.)	
24	Club Run Dartford (All Ages)	Dartford
24	Romford % Marathons	
31	Orion 15 (S)	
31	T.V.H. Relays (Y.J.S.)	
31	Victoria Park 5 (U.S.)	
Apr 7	Canterbury 6 (U.S.)	
21	Holly Hill Race	Snodland

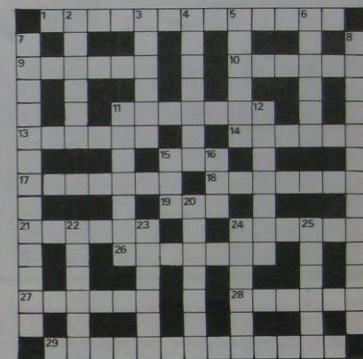
ELLIOTT PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

Programme

- Feb 28 PRACTICAL - glamour evening
- Mar 7 COMPETITION - Elliotts v Reeds Club
- 14 SYC/SOUND - showing of club project
- 21 PRACTICAL - visit Piccadilly Circus, London - night photography.

CROSSWORD No. 14

Compiled by P.K. May, FCD Test.



ACROSS

1. Old but cheap form of transport (5, 8)
9. Could be a state - ideally (6)
10. Horses do it, but not at the Potts (6)
11. Alp shuffled the cards for display poster (7)
13. Little Edward joins sunbeam for this comic actor (3, 3)
14. This river sounds like a good number (6)
15. A teacher is said to have one (3)
17. Pain in the side (3, 4)
18. The morning star could be the first (7)
19. Lea chances for a drink (3)
21. Shots taken at a sitter (6)
24. Specific Indian ruler (3, 3)
26. Fruit made contact after it fell to the ground (7)
27. Do you shout this when you get out of the bath? (6)
28. The French idiot produces a pool (6)
29. Game being undertaken by school leavers (7, 6)

DOWN

2. Eve KO'd and became aroused (6)
3. Lay Rye could be for 12 months (6)
4. Cheat at being a small hand case (7)
5. Stripes in your tanks? (6)
6. Not in your ... could be a lie Len (6)
7. What one King did, didn't taste nice (5, 3, 5)
8. Revolving girl? Sound like an old thread machine (8, 5)
11. The Regiment a soldier would find profitable (3, 4)
12. Illuminate backward Ed for sheer pleasure (7)
15. An ape all mixed up could be green (3)
16. Refreshment on a golf course? (3)
20. Walks this way, after hurting yourself (7)
22. Merry learner? Name her (6)
23. Even when its hot it turns lithos blue (6)
24. Sand employee who could make a fortune (6)
25. Famous warship! (6)

For amusement only.

SOLUTION TO CROSSWORD No. 13

ACROSS

1. Gasholer, 6. Stuck, 9. Trace, 10. Easter egg, 11. Odorous, 12. Overdue, 14. Easy sorter, 15. Mast, 18. Hasp, 19. Begat arian (Y), 23. Rossini, 25. Let-a-spa, 26. Hearhrug, 27. Crimp, 28. Taken, 29. Addressed.

DOWN

1. Get together, 2. Sea horses, 3. One mouse, 4. Dresser, 5. Restore, 6. See red, 7. Upend, 8. Keg, 13. Eating apple, 16. Amin stir, 17. Particle, 20. Eritrea, 21. Alleged, 22. Kitten, 24. Slack, 26. Hat.

Photographs taken by the Staff Photographers will be acknowledged in the following way: (A) Alan Evans, (B) Susan Rucklenden (C) Linda Jones (D) Tim Murray.

The views and opinions expressed by contributors are not necessarily those of the Editor or Company. Any such opinion or comment are those of the contributor alone, and are printed solely as a matter of interest. Produced by the Publicity Dept. GEC Machines Limited, Bradford for Mercati Avionics Limited, Kent and printed by John H. Niss & Company Limited Chesham, Yorkshire.

