

FORTY YEARS ON The Hurricane comes to Rochester

Rochester Airport, managed by the Company since 1977, seems to be building up a tradition of rescue and restoration of veteran aircraft from World War 2, through the activities of the Aircraft Preservation Group of Medway's branch of the Royal Aeronautical Society. The latest project is the complete refurbishment of the Hawker Hurricane LF 738 which for some time has been in position as 'gate guardian' at RAF Biggin Hill, in company with a Spitfire, to commemorate the Battle of Britain in 1940 and the part played by Biggin Hill in the conflict.

On Thursday 9 February the Hurricane was brought by transporter to the apron outside the main airfield hanger and was unloaded in the presence of a number of press representatives and interested visitors. It was handed into the care of Lewis Deal, Preservation Group Leader of the RAeS, and was subsequently wheeled round to a small workshop at the back of the hanger which has been made available to the group by the Company. Already, the airframe has been stripped right down to its fundamentals and detailed assessment is now taking place on how much work needs to be done and how it will be tackled.

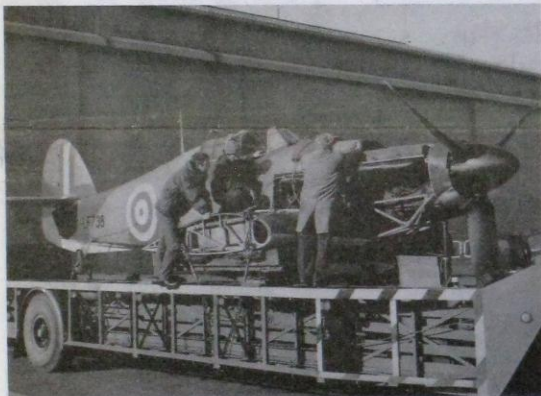
Lewis Deal said the preservation group were very pleasantly surprised at what they found of the condition of the

Hurricane. There had been some repair and weatherproofing done a few years ago in preparation for its mounting out of doors, and at the aft end there is some rotting wood but in general the airframe is sound - with 'some poor bits.' The task is expected to take 2 to 3 years, and there is guarded optimism that the fighter may indeed fly again. Spares are still available or can be fabricated but one big item which will be needed is a radiator for the engine. Feelers are being put out for possible sources of this part. The actual airframe will reach its 40th birthday in June; this Hurricane never saw active service but was last in regular use with an O.T.U. It flew until June 1945, and one of the main reasons now for its restoration is that it is one of the last eight survivors from around 14 thousand that were built.

The Preservation Group is already experienced in tasks of this nature; they successfully restored the Spitfire, TB752, which is now on permanent display at RAF Manston and which attracts large numbers of visitors in the Thanet area. Other veterans already at Rochester airfield are the Gloster Meteor Mark 8, which was recovered from the fire-dump at Manston, and the American Thunderstreak which belongs to the RAF Museum, and used to be with the Belgian Air Force.

WHAT WAS THAT?

Actually, the bangs were made by Royal Engineers from Chatterden blowing up the last remaining charges which were placed during World War 2 in case German troop transporters wished to use the runways. Although the mines were defused long ago, inhabitants of Corsair and Phase III may now relax, and Flying Training Scheme pilots need not now expect assisted take-offs. The pipes containing the mostly removed explosive had been buried to a depth of around 8 feet, and were re-located by specialised detection equipment remotely controlled. Supposedly, the original idea came from Winston Churchill, and Rochester airfield is the last in the country to be finally cleared.



LF738 has just arrived from Biggin Hill, and RAF technicians are preparing the slings.



Delicate balancing act on to the prepared stands.



The aircraft back on its own wheels, with Pinky Stark, Airport Manager, and Lewis Deal, Preservation Group Leader. Pinky recalls that he himself trained on Hurricanes, only slightly longer ago than the age of this one. (A)

Our girl technicians still among the best

Lee Angel, who is a Senior Software Engineer in ADD, was nominated for the Girl Technician of the Year award organised by the Institution of Electrical and Electronic Engineers and the Caroline Haslett Memorial Trust. She reached the final six contestants in spite of keen competition from throughout the industry and was awarded an inscribed pen at the presentation ceremony in January. The award is presented usually to an outstanding technician engineer, under the age of 30, who has undertaken the necessary education and training and has proved herself capable of undertaking a job with an appreciable degree of responsibility.

Lee has been with ADD Software Group for over 2 years, having been with the Company for a total of 7 years, first with IND and then with FCD. She qualified with an HNC in Computer Studies from the Mid-Kent College, being among the first year intake of the Trainee Computer Programmer scheme. While with ADD she has been responsible for the development of the Optical Flight Program installed in the A-10 Close Support Aircraft which forms part of the LANTRIN HUD programme. Latterly she has been instrumental in setting up, and indeed now runs, the Independent Test Group which is responsible for rigour testing and ultimate qualification of operational software development within the Division.

This success follows that of Jayne Wood (also of ADD) who in 2 successive years reached the final six of the competition.



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Erik Loft (Calibration) and John Brambleby, GYRO
Jane Wenham OOD (Gads Hill)
Others are required for: CQD and RAS.

Volunteers should offer their services through Divisional Administration Officers or direct to the Editor.

**COPY DATE
NEXT ISSUE
THURSDAY
22nd MARCH**

OBITUARY

We record with regret the deaths of the following colleagues.

'Bill' Bailey - Inspector, ADD on 5 December
George Heaverson - Tester, CACD on 18 December
Des Pells - Checker Draughtman, ATED on 6 January
David Nicholas - Inspector, ATED on 13 January
John Arger - Wireman, CACD on 19 January
Ron Anderson - Stock Controller, MASD on 8 February
'Aif' Neat - Spares Manual Compiler, ATE on 27 December
John Colton - Training Officer on 27 February



David Nicholas.



John Arger.

Our heartfelt sympathy goes to their families and relations, some of whom also work here at Rochester.

Mind Bender

Using lateral thinking solve the missing five letter word

H I J K L M N O = - - - - -
Answer next month

Please Can You Help?

A local majorette troupe - The Crystallettes, are looking for a safe parking space for their coach. In the past year the coach has been vandalised several times. The last occasion cost the troupe £150 to repair broken windows. This was money raised by the girls and parents for new uniforms and track suits for the girls.

The coach is not just transport, it is used as a changing room and at times even sleeping accommodation, vital to the troupe for their competition and display appearances. Many of their displays are given free of charge for local organisations.

The troupe are looking for a parking space within reasonable distance of Deanwood Drive, say in Parkwood, Wigmore, Rainham or Hempstead.

If you know of anywhere that would be suitable please contact:-
Jenny Shiers CACD Stock Control. Int. 2204

CAREER COUNSELLING

FOR ALL STAFF
AN OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS YOUR
CAREER ASPIRATIONS

Contact Christine Carter on extension 2367
for an appointment

Insurance Offers

Graeme Blair Ltd, Registered Insurance Brokers, who have for many years serviced members of the Sports and Social Clubs within Marconi Avionics, take this opportunity to bring to your notice the facilities currently offered.

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House purchase mortgages funds are readily available to first time buyers and others, with virtually no upper limit. Subject to the usual qualifications, they also specialise in Life Assurance, Financial Planning and Capital Tax Programmes.

All staff at Graeme Blair Ltd are conversant with the various arrangements outlined above. However, for conveniences please ask for Brian Moore or Elaine Munn on Dartford 72215 or 73989, who will give prompt attention to your enquiry, or write to Graeme Blair Ltd, Blair House, 72 Spital Street, Dartford, Kent, DA1 2DT.

If your policy is due for renewal, why not give them a try? Consultations in the Snack Bar, Thursdays, 3.00 - 5.00pm.



Taking to the air again

MAv will be supporting the National Gliding Championships for the second year; the event takes place at Lasham August 11th-19th.

Much encouragement was drawn over a long period following last summer's competition, from the publicity given to the Company's sponsorship in world-wide aviation press coverage.



Hand Car Wash & Valeting Service
2 & 3 Crusader Close, Gillingham Business Park,
Gillingham, Kent.
Telephone Medway 377806

Special Offer to all MAv Employees

**SGT. BILL'S
OFFICER'S CAR CLUB**

Membership to the Club usually costs £7.50

Family subscription up to 3 cars usually costs £10.00

Membership to this Club entitles you to:

A reduction in the price of every visit to Sgt. Bill's by at least 50p for one year from date of joining:

Wash, wax and dry: NON MEMBERS £2.50
MEMBERS £2.00

To club members, on production of your members card there will be a discount on nearly all Sgt. Bill's cleaning services and promotions throughout the year.

For instance our traditional hand waxing service on a family size saloon will cost: NON MEMBERS £20.00
MEMBERS £15.00

Upholstery and Carpet clean will cost: NON MEMBERS £16.00
MEMBERS £14.50

Our clean-up service for very dirty cars will cost:
NON MEMBERS £11.00
MEMBERS £9.50

Sgt. Bill's Security Service imprints your car registration number onto all your car windows, acting as a very strong deterrent to thieves who would find it far too costly to replace all the windows as well as the number plate. This service costs:

NON MEMBERS £8.00
MEMBERS £6.00

So you can see on this small number of items a club membership will save you money. And our promotions in the coming year will save you much more.

Visit Sgt. Bill's for your first wash, wax, vacuum and windows at HALF PRICE and pick up your FREE membership card.

Congratulations

Engagements - Spring is in the air

Carol Hatt, Secretary in ISD Marketing Dept., to Melvin Goodin, who works for a security firm in London.

Ann-Marie Pack of ATE Test, and Paul Giles of ADD QA; their friends and colleagues send their congratulations.

Garry Thompson, ex-apprentice now in ISD Logistics, and Karen Irvin who works at Lloyds in Chatham.

On 22nd of February, which is also her 21st birthday, Debbie Gordon of CACD Library, to Mark Conner of CACD Inward Goods.

Kevin Rye, CMS Inspection, to Paula Moon.

Births

In the early hours of a Sunday morning at the end of January the gift of a daughter Andrea, to Linda formerly of PSD Stock Control, and Martin Boardman of ISD Model Shop Planning.

Future Events

Jackie Brekin who has worked in AS & RD Cost and Budget since 1979 has started her maternity leave in preparation for early April. Husband John is in the division's Contracts Dept; Jackie's friends presented her with several child necessities and baby clothes.

Brenda Sherwood and her husband Chris, together with Paddington and other gifts from colleagues which were presented by John Lockyer, MAv Librarian. Brenda was leaving to start the family after about eight years as Secretary in the Technical Library; Chris has been a Tester in IND for about the same time but has just transferred to Gyro Division. Best wishes to both from all their friends.



Brenda Sherwood with husband Chris. (B)

Marriage

Many will remember Krystina Ritson who was a secretary in Personnel Dept for some years, and Dave (Jacko) Jackson who was superintendent in CACD. They are now Confidential Secretary in Personnel and Production Manager, at Nailssea, and on Saturday 10th December they were married in Bristol.

Paul Cooper, Marketing Executive, presented the couple with a pair of silver-stemmed crystal goblets, and among the congratulations and good wishes of colleagues he wished them future happiness on behalf of everyone at Nailssea.



David Jackson and Krystina Ritson with Paul Cooper.

APPOINTMENTS and PROMOTIONS

Two appointments in Gyro Division. Following the departure of Ian Cooper, **Graham Baker** has taken the Chief Engineer's Chair, and **David Hussey** has moved from MASD as Deputy Manager/Marketing Manager.

David started his career with the Company at Borehamwood in the former Airborne Computing Division but moved to Rochester in 1968 and soon became involved in a number of major projects in Airborne Display Division, rising to Engineering Manager and in 1982 to Marketing Executive. For the last 18 months he has been Technical Manager in MASD. Home is at Watlington with his wife, one child and two step-children.

Graham has gone far since he started his Technician Apprenticeship at Rochester in 1964. His first position on completion was as Technical Assistant in ISD, then as Development Engineer when he gained his HND. Since 1971 he has been in Gyro, rising through the engineering department where he has been except during the last year as Marketing Executive. He was involved with the Stingray project for much of the time, and was made Project Manager for the gyro aspects of the Jaguar FBW project, also for the introduction of the Northrop gyroscope under licence into the division. Graham also holds office as Secretary of the Round Table branch in Faversham, where he lives with his wife and young son.

John Carter is now Marketing Support Manager, responsible to Maurice Needham for the continuing development of information services to meet the immediate and long-term needs of MAV's marketing activities. John's 30 years in aerospace started with 6 years at Boscombe Down on helicopter research and 2 years with Ferranti

on a flight director system. He then took up fixed-wing tasks, joining this Company in 1962 as Flight Trials Team Leader at Watton on Lightning auto-attack systems and then TSR2 trials, both with MACD. He resumed helicopter work on joining FID to develop air data computer systems, and was the patentee for the swivelling probe now used on USAF Cobra ADS. On the formation of ISD he became Project Manager for all the division's Digital Air Data work, moving towards the marketing aspects and then in 1974 going to Atlanta; by 1977 he was looking after Cobra and from 1981 the SCADC which is ISD's spearhead project for the US Air Force. Back in England since mid 1982 he has been concentrating on corporate market development. He has a family of wife, son and daughter.

Bill Letley is the new QA Manager in AS & RD. Bill joined the division in 1951 following nine years in the Navy where he reached the rank of Chief REA. For many years Bill was in the field engineering/technical representative activities for the Company, spending time in RAF stations such as Wittering, St Mawgan, Luqa, Lissiemouth and later taking up instructional duties. In 1977 he took up the Deputy QA Manager's role; like his predecessor Stan Bailey he is very occupied in gardening in his off-duty moments.

Senior appointments in IND are '**Fred**' Rowe as Chief Production Engineer and **Alan Wilson** as Chief of Test.

Keith Mitchell is now Engineering Manager in FARL.

Vic Haywood, Planner in AS & RD and for a long time MAV News Liaison man, has transferred to FCD to take up the position of Buyer.

GEC Business Game – Progress Report

Maybe not many people know that we have four teams competing in the company-wide (GEC) Business Game – usually abbreviated to NBG. Its purpose is to provide an opportunity for employees at all levels to get a feel for the 'business' activity as a whole in an enjoyable, entertaining but competitive way. NBG is concerned with the internal operations of a fictitious company, dealing with the relationships between production, sales, stock etc., and the effect on cash flow, profit, and return on capital. Three products are made, each requiring two production processes. Each team has to tackle varying market and economic conditions and the game's organisers are experts at throwing spanners in the works and standing back and watching how the teams cope.

MAV has four teams entered this year – there have been previous competitions among which one of our teams – from FARL – achieved a very high final placing. Few results are published during the progress of the game, but we do know that one team – FARL again – are currently hovering within the top twenty among nearly 300 entrants.

This year's tycoons are:

FARL Trevor Hall, Malcolm Earl, Brian Wortley, Geoff Burtenshaw, advised by Fergus Moloney.

Gyro Pete Waters, Phil Chandler, Nick Gibson, Alan Emery, Jackie Smith, advised by Jim Carter (replacing Ian Cooper).

ATED Kevin Dawson, Russell Woolley, Mark Tyrell, Philip Morris, advised by Barry Beddoe.

MASD Trevor Harrison, Alan Gregory, Kevin Restell, Philippa Wilson, Andy Moon, advised by John Talbot (replacing Dave Hussey).

IND shown the way

Inertial Navigation Division are developing a strapdown inertial system, the MAVLANS (Marconi Avionics Land Navigation System), to give armoured vehicles a heading reference and navigation facility – magnetic systems for obvious reasons being virtually useless in such vehicles as tanks and self-propelled guns. The system, besides navigation, is also a strong contender to provide artillery with an attitude reference for gun aiming.

In order to give those in the Division concerned with the development and production of the system a better idea of

artillery operations, the Royal Artillery Sales Team visited Rochester on a cold day last December with a field gun, which had been towed all the way from Larkhill in Wiltshire, to give a presentation on all aspects of Royal Artillery operations in the field.

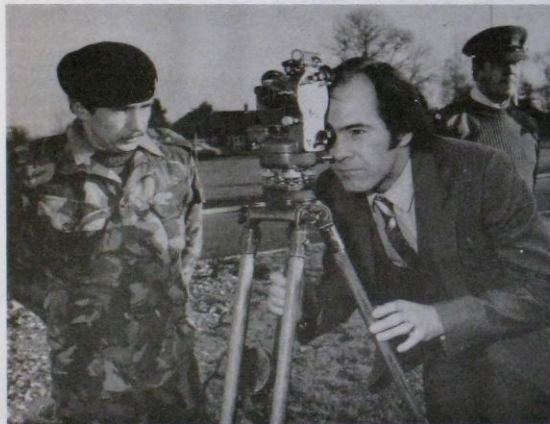
The presentation was comprehensive and included practical demonstrations of gun aiming methods in which the audience were able to take part, as the pictures show. Our congratulations to the RA Sales Team for an excellent presentation.



Drawing a bead on a certain Managing Directors' Office.



Tower 1 – two degrees right!



Finding the angles – why does the officer look so worried?



The field gun made ready for action, watched by some rather cool customers.

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English
Tourist Board



HOLIDAY TIME

Of Birds and Cars

In late winter and early spring wildfowl are at their sleekest and most colourful. Bentley, to the south of Uckfield in East Sussex, makes a good outing combining a motor museum with a large wildfowl collection. In the rare moments of inclement weather known to occur in this country, one can wander round the museum; a splendid and continuously changing collection of old cars and related items. I particularly enjoyed the working hot-air engine – it reminded me of certain absent friends. Comes the rainbow and there are extensive water gardens adorned with many native trees and 110 species of wildfowl in bobbing drifts, honking, quacking and generally Jemimah Puddleducking about. In January the Cape Barren Geese were starting to nest, but by mid-March there will be a great deal more of this sort of thing going on (hence all the posh plumage). Other outdoor attractions include formal gardens, a woodland walk and a children's playground.

Bentley, which is run by the East Sussex County Council, is open every weekend until Easter from 11.00 am and daily thereafter.

For further information contact Alan West on Halland (0825 84) 573.

A stop-off on your Holiday Journey to the West

The Fleet Air Arm Museum at Yeovilton, just off the A303 West Country holiday route in Somerset, has shown a fine entrepreneurial spirit by obtaining and displaying a considerable number of Argentine aircraft and items of equipment captured in the Falklands war.

A Pucara ground attack aircraft, an Aermacchi turbo jet (the only one to be brought to Britain) and an Iroquois troop-carrying helicopter are prize exhibits in an extensive Falklands Exhibition opened in July 1983 by Prince Andrew, who served in the campaign.

The museum – run by a charitable trust is on land leased at a peppercorn rent from the Fleet Air Arm's Yeovilton air station. It had its origins in a layby on the old A303, which ran through the airfield, provided for motorists who wanted to spend some time watching the current and historic aircraft sited there.

The trustees and staff of the Fleet Air Arm Museum have been running hard ever since they

Caravan Park News ...

For the public who enjoy staying in caravans, we at the Tourist Board believe you deserve the best. There is now a leaflet available called 'Rose Award Parks' 1984 – all the holiday caravan parks have been judged to be among the best of their kind. The caravan park as a concept has undergone considerable metamorphosis and is not the car park some people think it is. Take for instance, Lower Hyde Leisure Park on the Isle of Wight, 15 minutes walk from the safe sandy beach surrounded by open farmland – 25 acres of landscaped park includes swimming pools, tennis, mini-golf, restaurant, entertainment, shop and children's playground plus 13 Rose Award caravans. Even better is Sandy Balls (sic) Holiday Centre – a wooded estate in 120 acres with a bird sanctuary and nature reserve. Swimming and fishing in excellent waters of the Avon, horse riding and more. 35 sites in all with telephone numbers for direct booking. The public should write in to:

Rose Award Parks, Dept. L.P., 4 Grosvenor Gardens, London SW1W 0DU.

opened, just to keep up with visitor numbers; with acquisitions of aircraft and the need to accommodate them under cover, and with their desire to present the museum's historic collection as vividly as possible.

Much of the museum's resources have gone on extending and adding to the hangar space originally made available by the Fleet Air Arm. Military aircraft apart, its most spectacular exhibit is the original British-built Concorde 002. Visitors can inspect the batteries of instruments fitted to test the prototype during its pre-commercial flights. A mock-up shows how Concorde was later fitted out for full passenger service.

In 1983, the museum opened a 100-seat audio-visual theatre, and sees great scope for the use of animated displays.

The mainstream displays show not only Fleet Air Arm aircraft (and those of its forerunner, the Royal Naval Air Services) but some of the planes they fought against, including a Japanese kamikaze plane and pieces of Heinkel wreckage, and exhibits about the aircraft carriers from which many of these planes flew.



Blackburn Buccaneer

Many Towns Out of Character

Of course there are the usual names for this year's summer holiday – Lanzarote, Mallorca, Ibiza and even Corfu. 1984 though, may be time to opt for a few more conventional names like Crackington Haven, Labour-in-Vain, Stretre (Not to be confused with Crete) or even Huish Episcopi. Such places can be uncovered in the 1984 brochure from Character Cottages (Holidays) Ltd. For those in search of self-catering holiday homes, one can find various types of accommodation with prices ranging from £149 p.w. for a cottage for 6 in June to a period farmhouse for 8 at £335 in August. Colour photographs give an indication as to the character of the cottage which varies almost as much as the counties in which they are situated. If peace and quiet is your calling this summer contact Pauline Gomersall, Publicity Officer on Sidmouth (03955) 77001 extn. 25.

Weekend Jaunts

Many people are interested not only in making their own wine, but also in visiting the increasing number of vineyards now in being. The English Tourist Board sent information on some of the establishments; the quality of this year's harvest was expected to be the best for 10 years. It is often wise to telephone before a planned visit since in smaller vineyards the proprietors may be tending vines or immersing their feet at the time of an unexpected invasion. The following places are within easy reach of Rochester.

BIDDENDEN

R.A. Barnes, Biddenden Vineyards Ltd., Little Whatmans, Biddenden, Ashford, Kent TN27 8DH. Tel: Biddenden (0580) 291726. Location: About 12 miles south west of Ashford. Facilities: Visitors can call at the vineyard and look around, tastings are available from the shop. Guided tours are available for groups (minimum 25) by appointment, at £2.50 per head. Includes tastings, and ploughman's lunches are available. Prices: Wine £3.40 to £3.75. Apple wine £1.50. Cider: £1.07 (litre).

LAMBERHURST

K. McAlpine, Ridge Farm, Lamberhurst, Nr. Tunbridge Wells, Kent. Tel: Lamberhurst (0892) 890844. Location: About 6 miles south east of Tunbridge Wells. Facilities: Vineyard trail for visitors, lasts about half an hour, includes tasting, £1.00 per head. Guided tours – vineyard, winery, cellar – for groups of between 15-45 by appointment, lasts about 2 hours. There are guided tours throughout August, 11.00 am and 2.30 pm Monday to Friday, £1.75 tasting included. Prices: Wine: £2.09 to £5.90. Vines. Lamberhurst Raspberry Liqueur £3.80. N.B. The largest vineyard in England (32 acres)

PENSHURST

W.H. Westphal, The Grove, Peshurst, Kent. Tel: Peshurst (0892) 870255. Location: About 6 miles north west of Tunbridge Wells. Facilities: Guided tours by appointment, including tasting £1.50. Lunches can be arranged at nearby pub. This must be the only vineyard in the country that keeps wallabies, though they are not used for pressing grapes. Prices: £44.00 per case.

STAPLE ST JAMES

Staple Vineyards, Church Farm, Staple, Canterbury, Kent. Tel: Ash (0304) 812571. Location: About 8 miles east of Canterbury. Facilities: Self-guided tours and tasting, June to September 11.00-6.00 pm, Monday to Saturday, 50 pence a head. Groups by appointment for guided tour, 50 pence a head, but minimum charge of £7.50. Prices: Wine: £3.40 to £3.95.

Fresh vegetables also on sale.

TENTERDEN VINEYARDS

Stephen and Linda Skeleton, Tenterden Vineyards, Spots Farm, Small Hythe, Tenterden, Kent. Tel: Tenterden (05806) 3033. Location: About 12 miles south west of Ashford. Facilities: Open to visitors from May to September. Access to vineyard, winery, herb gardens, and tasting included. Adults 50 pence, children under 16 free. Groups by appointment are given guided tour of premises with tasting lasting about 1½ hours. Food can be ordered, ranging from £1.95 for a ploughman's to £3.25 for substantial fare. Prices: Wine from £2.95 to £4.55. Apple wine: £1.50. Apple juice 80 pence (litre). Wide range of herbs, pot pourri etc.

Editors note. Prices likely to change in 1984.

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Pantomime and party joy for the handicapped kids

On Saturday 28th January, following tradition and the productions at the MAV Children's parties before Christmas, the Social Club Committee gave their pantomime "Snow White and the Three Bears" to an enthralled audience of around 250 from the Medway Society for Mentally Handicapped Children. Other guests included the Mayors of Medway and Gillingham, a Brigadier from the Royal Engineers at Brompton, and Mr Anderson, President of the MSMHC and his wife. The MAV Brass Band provided music during the party and for the panto, and as always a marvellous time was enjoyed by all. The Society's note of appreciation is shown.

"Snow White and the 3 bears"

Snow White
The Wicked Queen
King
Daddy Bear
Mummy Bear

Jane Kempton
Rita Edwards
Jim Tray
Rod Cole
Melvin Doggett

Baby Bear
Soldiers
Axeman
Woodcutter

Ben Goodchild
Graham Bird
Freddie Bingham
Jim Goudie
Jim Collins



At one of the performances given at the Children's parties before Christmas, the twin daughters of John Bradley, Director of Personnel, were invited on stage to meet the stars.

Two Mayors helping to entertain two of the handicapped children. (Photo courtesy of South Eastern Newspapers Ltd.)



Registered as a Charity in accordance with the National Assistance Act 1948 and the Charities Act 1960
Affiliated to the National Society for Mentally Handicapped Children

M. S. M. H. C.
Medway Society
for Mentally Handicapped Children
Abround House, Woodlands Road, Gillingham, Kent

Secretary:
Mrs. J. E. Mitchell
9 Foxglove Crescent
Chatham
Kent
28th January 1984

Mr. J. Collins
Social Committee
Marconi Bros Ltd
Airport Works
Rochester
Kent

Dear Mr. Collins

Once again I write to thank you most sincerely for all the wonderful work you and your colleagues do to give our children such an entertaining afternoon, what we would do without your help every year I dread to think.

The Children do so love coming to Marconi's Canteen every year it is the highlight of the year, so to you all thank you for giving our children your very valuable time, may I take this opportunity of wishing you all a very Happy and prosperous New Year.

Yours sincerely
Joan Mitchell
Hon Secretary

Joan Mitchell

RETIREMENTS

Stan Bailey, has been a well-known figure throughout the Company since 1956. It was then that he joined us following service in the RAF, and a spell as radio servicing engineer and as diagnostician with an aircraft maintenance organisation. He started at Rochester as Senior Inspector with Aviation Division, moving to MACD as Deputy Chief Inspector in 1959. In 1961 he was promoted to Chief Inspector and transferred to AS & RD in 1963 in that capacity. In 1965 he became the division's Quality Assurance Manager, and has been in that post till now. Stan's health has not been too good lately and he is now retiring a little early; a presentation was made to him at his home by Eunice McMillan, Welfare Officer, of his choice of gifts and the best wishes of a host of friends. Stan asked that the collection made for him should be used to buy a stainless steel garden fork ("I've always wanted one but could never afford it") and a garden seat on which to relax and admire the results. This will have a suitably inscribed plaque as a permanent reminder of all his friends in MAV. There was also a framed drawing depicting some of Stan's (and Edna's) pastimes.



Stan Bailey receiving his gifts at his home, from Eunice McMillan, Welfare Officer.



It is believed that Jimmy Hayes started work in the grocery business, and it he had continued he would have made a successful business man as you will hear later. However, Jim worked at Pobjoys, supplying much needed

parts for the Air Force. After local bombing commenced they and Jim moved to Bedford where he continued his good work.

Jim met his wife during the war at Bedford. He returned from Bedford in 1946 after Pobjoys were disbanded. For a short while he worked for Hawkers at Kingston then returned to Rochester to work for Morrison Engineering, for 5 years. He was known as 'smiler' because he had plenty to smile about, always got the best piece work jobs and raffles.

When Morrison Engineering finished Jim joined Essex Aero, Gravesend, making Hospital equipment, and during this time helped to make the Big Star for the Festival of Britain.

In 1953 he joined Elliott Brothers where he started work in MER. He then joined Guided Missiles and then ATED, where he became Charge Hand and then Foreman.

He has always been known as 'Raffles Hayes'. Jim has always been an obliging chap, obtaining anything from a tin of sardines to an elephant, we think he had contacts with London Zoo.

Jim has an unusual hobby, in that he likes shopping and visiting market stalls. He is certainly prepared to find the best bargains and now that he has retired will become even more expert in this field. It is rumoured that he may become a market trader as a sideline.



Jimmy Hayes with his gifts. (A)

Betty Greenwood and 'Cis' Colville have retired after 11 and 17 years respectively with the Company. Both were part-time Cleaners; Betty (on left in picture) was one of the team looking after MAV executive offices and Tower 2 stairs and landings, while Cis worked in Personnel Department and Tower 1. It is now a year since Betty's husband Ted retired from his work in the main boilerhouse - he still comes in part-time to supervise the New Road Avenue car park, and the food processor presented to Betty will surely remind her of her fellow workers.

Cis received a percolator and other gifts; she plans to continue her spare time activities with the Girl Guides and Brownies.

We have no picture of Jessie Lawrence who retired after 7 years as part-time evening cleaner in Wages and Accounts. She received some crystal glassware from her friends and colleagues.



Betty Greenwood and 'Cis' Colville. (A)

AIR MARSHAL VISITS

Air Marshal Sir Michael Knight, K.C.B., A.F.C., B.A., who is Air Member for Supply and Organisation, Ministry of Defence, visited MAV on 30 January. Hosted by Dr. O'Kane and Mr. Alexander, he spent part of his time visiting ISD. Here he is seen with Production Manager John Clover and Divisional Manager John Colston.



Pat Johnson, Buyer in ADD Purchasing, retired on 9th January following 17 years' service.

Lawrence Matthias, Chief Buyer, presented him with a pair of binoculars, sun lounger and cigarette lighter recording best wishes from friends and colleagues.

Pat has not had one days un-employment throughout his 51 years working life (which began at the old Empire Theatre, Chatham and included 10 years in the army). He hopes to enjoy his retirement in pursuit of leisure activities, which will include time spent with his newly arrived granddaughter.



Pat Johnson receiving his binoculars from Lawrence Matthias. (A)

Tom Springett started his working life as an apprentice with Kent Electric Power as an Electrician. After serving his time, like millions of others he received a notification from HMG to serve in the forces (for the duration of hostilities). Tom served in the RAF as an Electrician and attained NCO status. After the war he returned to KEP but left for more lucrative employment. He tried factory work (Ozonair) but didn't care much for that. Then a spell of contracting, finally ending up as an Electrician at the cement works. He stayed there for some years, but finally got fed up with travelling and in February of 1958, he joined Elliott Bros. as an Inspector.

Shortly after joining he got himself a 98cc James motor cycle, but due to deteriorating teeth he always dressed like an arctic explorer, and that was in summer. Tom really left his mark during the TSH2 and CSA days. He became the scourge of Production, the slayer of Engineering and Spec Writers and master supreme of the RN Pad. The stories about Tom are legend. To those of us who knew him well he is a true and trusted friend. A staunch union man in his day, and a prolific blood donor, his talents will be sorely missed.

Tom was given a 'Flymo' for his retirement. It was presented on behalf of all his colleagues by Stan Welles, Production Manager.



Tom Springett with his wife Josie who works in Fisher. Son Bob also works here, in IND on night shift. (B)

Sam Eldridge has been with Works Engineering Services for 7 years; he is seen here with Sid Williams (who also made the presentations recorded above). Sam's job as Carpenter and Joiner has been done all over the factory as part of the everyday maintenance of the Company's buildings, but he was particularly involved with the construction of the Control Tower on the Airfield, which was resurrected with materials reclaimed from a former gatehouse. Sam's hobbies of DIY and photography will be well served by the gifts of photographic equipment made by his friends and fellow workers.



Sid Williams and Sam Eldridge. (A)

MAV has a big interest in GEC Software Ltd

At the recent launching in London of GEC Software Ltd., MAV's involvement was shown in a number of ways. The business of the new company will be to meet the increasingly recognised need for better and more effective software tools. Derek Alway, Managing Director, said that he saw the Company as a software equivalent to the machine tool industry, producing the tools which companies will need in order to stay competitive. As well as meeting a recognised need throughout the "Marconi" and GEC systems companies, the market will be in both technical and commercial environments in the UK and overseas.

The Technical Director is Dr A Callaway from the Royal Aircraft Establishment, Farnborough. Chairman is Derek Roberts, Technical Director of GEC, and of the remaining six on the board, two are from our own company. Professor John Shepherd, lately returned to MAV from Cranfield Institute of Technology to be our Technical Director, and David Rickard Financial Director, will serve GEC Software - the latter as Company Secretary.



Sports and Social Club round up



MAV-BP Kent Club Annual General Meeting

The AGM was held at the Clubhouse on Thursday 26th January and was attended by 72 members, with 5 apologies for absence. Club Chairman John Bradley opened the meeting by welcoming all present and then invited Bill Alexander as President to chair the proceedings. Following adoption of the minutes of last year's meeting, he called upon Ralph Bates, Treasurer, to present his report. This proved to be encouraging; despite a complex situation during the run-down and sale of the Featherby Road premises, the important result emerging was the income from the Hoo Club of over £12,000. Featherby Road made a loss of over £10,000 during the run-down period and the Company gave a subsidy of £27,500 to assist towards the intended improvements, plus a further £5000 to pay outstanding Featherby Road debts. The major sum was in advance of the proceeds still due from the final sale of the old clubhouse. The overall surplus of over £34,000 is therefore an abnormal amount. The main income on an ongoing basis is from subscriptions, bar takings and the use of machines and facilities. In support of all this, the Company met costs over the 12-month period in excess of £120,000, for electricity, rates, heating of club and pool, and wages and for secretarial, supervisory and accounting work. Full details of the accounts are of course available to all members. Ralph Bates concluded his report which ranged far beyond the figures given above, by answering some questions and the President then offered the accounts for adoption by members - the vote was unanimous in favour.

Peter Bird, Vice-Chairman, opened his statement by thanking Ralph Bates for his report and for his work as Treasurer - this is now to be taken over by Jane Kempton. Jim Collins was thanked for his contribution as Social Secretary. It was noted that the Christmas and New Year celebrations were a great success, as were the decorations. Sections bearing the club name now total 23 including recent recruits such as Climbing, Ballroom Dancing and Computer Users. Efforts need to be made to form a Sports Committee. The main committee is already considering a number of proposals for capital improvements, these will of course become known when appropriate. Peter concluded by offering the thanks of the Club to all volunteers who help run the various sections, and particularly to the Company for its support, to John Bradley, and to Maurice Finch and his wife.

The President in his report said that the past year had shown tremendous progress in the amalgamation of the various sections of the two former clubs - this had at one time been expected to take up to two years, but the efforts of the various people involved supported by the hard work and attention to detail of the Management Committee meant that the task was nearly complete. His particular thanks were to Maurice Finch for his administration efforts and for his achievements already outlined by the vice-chairman. As for his hopes for the future, he mentioned the fact that the management committee have many possible improvements to the club premises and facilities in mind, many have already been closely examined and the arrival of funds on completion of the clubhouse sale is expected to coincide with the planned expenditure.

Maurice Finch explained the structure and election methods of the management committee, reminding the meeting that the next elections are in October 1984. The Committee then proposed the offering of Honorary Life Membership to twelve people and their spouses; particularly to be noted are Alf Harrison, Peter Bird, and Bert Snowwell. This proposal was carried unanimously.

One item of business concerning amendment of the constitution fell, since neither proposer nor seconder were present. The formal part of the meeting ended but Mr Alexander invited questions from members. Some discussion took place on the matter of budget allocations to sections and whether section representatives should be present when these decisions are made. It was pointed out that the Management Committee has been elected by all members - the funds of the whole club are at stake and only 40% of members actually belong to sections. Subsidies and support are therefore assessed impartially by the committee following pro-forma enquiries to sections, and so far as is humanly possible the decisions made strike the necessary balance between need and ability to pay. Most sections receive far more from the club than they put in to it; section subsidies were almost £10,000 in the year. An associated point was raised as to whether section committees should see management committee minutes which affect them. The answer here was that there is no public debate on the deliberations of the committee, who are entrusted by members with the task of running the club. Mr Finch added that legal advice had already been taken in the matter, and by the constitution of the club (and most others) the remedy of any alleged shortcoming lies in the ballot box. The meeting ended informally in the bar area.

MAV/BP Kent Club Management Committee Members

- | | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| John Bradley, Chairman (MAV) | Ron Goodchild, BP |
| Peter Bird, Vice Chairman (BP) | Jim Goudie, Fisher |
| Maurice Finch, Secretary (BP) | Hughie McArthur, Personnel/ Training |
| Rita Edwards, ATE | Martin Polley, ADD |
| Freddie Bingham, FARL | Mick Smith, BP |
| Graham Bird, ISD | Jim Troy, ADD |
| Rod Cole, MASD | |
| Jim Collins, MAV | |
| Tom Crooks, MAV | |
| Melvyn Doggett, AS & RD | |

Marconi Avionics - BP Kent Club SECTION SECRETARIES

Section	Honorary Secretary and Contact Point
Angling	Derek Waller - 39 Lingley Drive Wainscott (Medway 718909) Graham Bird (Fresh water) - ISD - 151/505 or 2416/2670
Amateur Radio	Allan Ralph - AS & R 436/2972
Archery	Jack Milner - ATE 693/2977
Athletics	Len Murphy - ADD Progress 395/2893
Badminton	Barry Finch - ADD D/O 600/2790
Ballroom Dancing	Muriel Cheetham - FARL Medway 44433 Ext. 67
Bowls	Ernie Langley - 12 Woodview Rise, Strood (Medway 718993)
Brass Band	Martin Polley - ADD Production 620/2885
Climbing	Rob James - FARL Medway 44433 Ext. 68
Computer Users	Elizabeth Doe - FARL Engineering Medway 44433 Ext. 37
Cricket	Eric Rose - 135 Watling Street, Strood (Medway 718030)
Darts and Cards	Graham Burford - FCD Test 168/2836
Golf	Michael Full details - IND Engineering 448/2718
Horticultural	Alan Morgan Brown - ATE Engineering 385/2648
Judo	Jim Hinchliffe - Fisher Controls (enrolments at Snack Bar)
Karate	Stephen Packham - IND Test (written applications)
Model Aircraft	Terry Medhurst - ISD Logistics 287/2351
Netball	Sandra Amey - ISD Software - 2538
Photography	Paul Nash - MASD Production 276/2797
Popmobility	Jill Lewis - FCD 375/2603
Rifle	Larry Vanderk - FARL (Medway 44433 Ext. 32)
Rugby	Stuart Cox - FCD Test 266/2250 Medway 404102
Soccer	Barry Mason - Accounts 134/2036 Bernard Collins - BP Terminal Maintenance (Medway 278553)
Squash	John Hollands - MASD Cost & Budget 363/2547
Sub Aqua	Raymond Newman - AS & R Section "C" 13/2244
Swimming	Roger Carpenter - 55 Rochester Crescent, Hoo (Medway 250240)
Table Tennis	Robin Shendan - MAS QA 246 or 650/2353
Tennis	Sandy Johnson - Fisher Controls Ext. 129
Tug-o-War	Ted Herbert - IND Production 26/2736
Yachting	Pauline Beltham - 88 Bettescombe Road, Rainham (Medway 33386)
Yoga	Valerie Fennell - MAV Personnel Records 208/2222

- If asked by the Chairman to give your opinion regarding some important matter, tell him you have nothing to say. After the meeting tell everyone how things ought to be done.
- Do nothing more than is absolutely necessary, but when other members roll up their sleeves and willingly and unselfishly use their ability to help matters along, how! that the Club is being run by a clique.
- Hold back your dues as long as possible or do not pay at all.
- Do not bother about getting new members. Let the Secretary do it.
- When a banquet is given, tell everybody that money is being wasted on blowouts which make a big noise and accomplish nothing.
- When no banquets are given, say the Club is dead and needs a tin can tied to it.
- If asked to sit at the speaker's table, modestly refuse.
- If you are not asked, resign from the Club.
- Do not tell the Club how it can help you, but if it does not help you, resign.

65 Club (Retired Personnel)

The year began, as is usual, with the Annual General Meeting. The report on the year's activities was received with general appreciation, and it was considered that the move from Featherby Road to the Canteen had brought more effectiveness into our meetings.

The officers and committee were up for election and to show the esteem with which all are held by the members, they were re-elected 'en bloc'.

They are - Chairman - Cyril Boorman
Secretary - Cyril Skinner
Treasurer - Bert Belsom
Vice-Chairman - Cecil Rhodes
Committee members - Mrs. Boorman, Mrs. Belsom, C. Dwane, Mr. O'Keefe, Alan Water.

The evening concluded with games of Bingo after enrolment and issue of Programme Cards. A committee meeting was held on 30th January, when consideration was given to the outings for 1984. They are provisionally fixed as follows:

May 30 Via Headcorn, Tenterden, Rye to Hastings, where a stop will be made; the return journey through the countryside, touching Battle, Broad Oak, Cross-in-Hand, Uckfield, Newick, Haywards Heath, Lingfield, Edenbridge and Hever.

July 18 Via Richmond, Hampton Court, Staines, Virginia Water, Ascot, Bracknell, Reading and on to Guildford.

August 29 This will be the Company Outing, and its destination is Clacton-on-Sea. As it is necessary to re-print the rules of the Club, it was considered advisable to bring them up to date, including a change of name. This will be discussed at the next monthly meeting, before finalisation.

How to be a good member of a club

- Do not come to the meetings.
- But if you do, come late.
- If the weather does not suit you, do not think of coming.
- If you do attend a meeting, find fault with work of the officers and the other members.
- Never accept an office, as it is easier to criticise than to do things.
- Nevertheless, get sore if you are not appointed on a committee, but if you are, don't attend the committee's meetings.

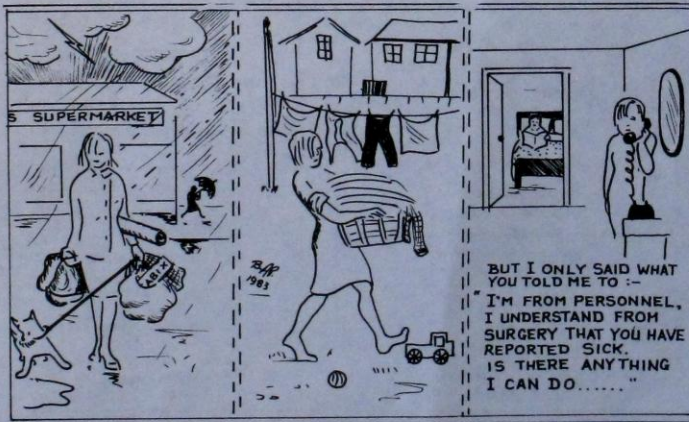
THE GRADUATE ASSOCIATION DISCO

St Georges Hotel - Chatham

FRIDAY, 13 APRIL, 1984

8.00 - 12.00

Members £1 - Non Members £1.50





Sports and Social Club round up



Soccer

After fourteen league games MAV/BP F.C. have yet to be beaten, in fact from a possible twenty eight points they have dropped only two. With six games left to play they require seven points for promotion and nine points to become champions of division two of the Rochester and district league. Highlight of the season was Marconi's defeat of arch-rivals BP-Kent; this was BP's first defeat of the season and since that time Marconi have been heading the league. The defeat of BP-Kent was due to goals from Harry Stewart (2) and Julian Watts in what turned out to be a 3-2 victory. Tony Smith scored the Brits' goals.

Marconi's scorers are both resident in MASD. All readers who take an interest in Company football will be pleased to note that 12 of the 16 strong squad are MAV employees.

It's important to note that after several barren years as Elliott F.C., Company football is on the up. Since their demise from the now defunct New Brompton League, success has been very limited and it is very refreshing to see success is very nearly back with us.

If you wish to support the club all home fixtures are at the Hoo Club on Saturday afternoons (2.15 KO) and these are printed in the local newspapers. Latest information is not available as we go to press.

	Division Two					
	P	W	D	L	F	A
MAV/BP	14	12	2	0	44	15
Strood City	14	8	6	0	62	19
Wal Tree	14	9	2	3	42	28
Windsor	12	7	2	3	39	18
Redwood Res	15	6	2	7	43	36
BP Kent	12	5	2	5	34	33
Lords Res	14	4	2	8	32	44
Bridgewood	14	3	4	7	29	43
Miers Val	14	4	1	9	26	51
Wheat 82	14	3	1	10	29	54
Lime Ct	13	1	2	10	22	63

1966 and all that!!

Everyone remembers England winning the Football World Cup in 1966, but not many people are aware of another great footballing achievement that occurred in more recent times 22nd January 1984 to be precise.

Picture the scene, a snowy field more familiar to a Franz Klammer than a Franz Beckenbauer!

Fourteen suspender clad females looking remarkably at home on the soggy pitch and eleven 'men' looking like something out of 'Fraggle Rock', wearing wellingtons and what can only be described as the left overs from an Oxfam Shop January Sale!

The Referee Steve Mayes proved the old saying 'Love is blind' by getting engaged six days prior to the match and then spent the entire game glassy eyed, missing several infringements.

These unlikely ingredients served up a memorable football match for all those who participated and those purists who braved the bitterly cold weather to watch the 'Soophah Secs' of MASD totally outclass 'Metchester Rovers' (MASD D/O & Eng) at the MAV/BP Sportsfield at Hoo.

The final score was 17-17 to the girls!! Bob Wilkinson, Divisional Manager, presented the Girls' Captain Christine Richardson-Smith with the Victors' Trophy.

As well as being tremendous fun, the match raised a terrific sum for charity. Thanks are sent to everyone who sponsored the players. A revenge match, at a sport which doesn't favour the girls next time, is expected in the summer.

A total of approximately £360 was raised for Fulmar School, Strood - a school for mentally handicapped children.

As the children are being taken on holiday sometime in March and would like a record of such an event, the School has chosen a cine camera, projector and large screen.



The 'Ladies', Standing L-R: Linda Kinslow, Annette Holden, Toni Lambkin, Philippa Wilson, Bronach Mckelly, Trish Kinney, Chris Richardson-Smith (Capt), Kneeling L-R: Alison Ward, Ginevra Pearce, Alison Dorrell, Frances Rodgers, Alison Ward, Ann Long, Mandy Lancaster. (A)



The 'Gentlemen', Standing L-R: Steve Mayes (Referee), Mark Catt (Capt), Alex Lynch, Graham Derrett, Chris Acaster, Neil Baker, Peter Norington, Andy Bulford, Kneeling L-R: Graham Peck, Gary Corder, David Golding, Played but not in picture Adrian White, Vince Hann. (A)



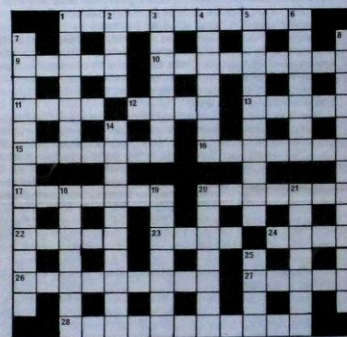
Usual problem? Is it a feller? (A)

Art Exhibition

at
Maidstone Library, St. Faiths Street
March 21st to 29th
Open till 7.00 pm weekdays, 5.00 pm Saturday
Admission Free

Glen Bartle, a quality surveyor in AS&RD, will be fulfilling one of his life's ambitions in the near future. Glen, who was a founder member of the MAV Arts Society, will be having an exhibition of his work at Maidstone Library, St. Faiths Street. On display will be Portraits, Landscapes and Still Lifes. Glen's paintings are in water colours and pastels, and there are also some excellent pen and ink drawings. All the works on display can be purchased at very reasonable prices. Glen, who originally came from Devon, started painting when he was a child. He has now been in AS&RD for 28 years, following 5 years in the RAF. Before that he spent 2 years at Tunbridge Wells Art College; he is also keen on poetry and sculpture.

CROSSWORD No. 59



ACROSS

- Not pleasing to cook, but for cleaning self. (5-2-4)
- Not appropriate to the skilled man. (5)
- Uncomfortable situation. (3-2-4)
- It is what you pay. (4)
- The arbiter takes it to smooth the way. (4)
- Gliners, aircraft and time do. (5)
- The chequered flag comes at the end. (4-3)
- More deadly when shortened. (4-3)
- You have to credit it more than debiting. (7)
- Expressing or appealing to emotions. (7)
- Large antelope. (5)
- The top which is often raised. (4)
- A decorative skirting. (7)
- Manner of audible emission. (9)
- Room above the top floor. (5)
- Shows it was in the fire too long, maybe branding. (3-3-5)

DOWN

- The basis of the unit. (7)
- Female name (shortened). (4)
- Foot support when riding. (7)
- Small particles from bench work. (7)
- The effect is a bleary picture, not clear. (3-2-5)
- In silence, your on your knees. (7)
- All the odds and ends. (13)
- What makes all the difference, acceptability. (8-5)
- Rocks unheeded may be the cause. (10)
- A boat, not a roller. (7)
- Canadian City. (7)
- Necessary after demolitions, maybe. (5-2)
- Over praise. (7)
- It's gone below the surface. (4)

Solution to Crossword No. 58

ACROSS

- Stogy; 4. Whispers; 10. Roller; 11. Disaster; 13. Good time; 14. Girls; 16. Nuts; 17. Thomas; 21. Cheeky; 22. Nero; 26. Regis; 27. Pub-crawl; 29. Chaplain; 30. Native; 31. Saturday; 32. Level.

DOWN

- Tot (L) booth; 3. Ghetto; 5. Hair; 6. Shanghai; 7. Extort; 8. Stress; 9. Brigand; 12. Smother; 15. Toby-jug; 18. Whistler; 19. Negative; 20. Boulder; 23. Bricks; 24. Aghast; 25. Scrape; 28. Pica.

(Apologies have been received for the error in last month's clues - none were omitted but the numbers may have misled you. Ed.)

Photographs taken by the Staff Photographers will be acknowledged in the following way: (A) Alan Keats; (B) Ian Douglas

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CLUB-HOUSE ATTRACTIONS

PUB NIGHT

with

Terry and Les
(Two Guitars)

Friday 16th March
8 - 11 pm



CABARET EVENING

Friday 23rd March
8pm - 12.30 am

Tickets from Social Committee and Club Bar
Admission by Ticket only

PUB NIGHT

with

Michael Hayes and his Guitar

Friday 30th March
8 - 11 pm



ST. PATRICK'S DAY DANCE

SOCCER SECTION

Saturday 17th March
7.45 - 11.45 pm

Tickets from Barry Mason 134/2036 and the bar

PARLOUR DERBY EVENING

Saturday 24th March - 8pm

Betting Units: 20p

Eight filmed Horse Races

More race meetings are planned
in the next few months