



EFA NEWS

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THE QUEEN'S AWARD TO INDUSTRY

THE MORNING OF APRIL 21, the Queen's actual birthday, brought the good news that EFA has won its fourth consecutive Queen's Award to Industry for export achievement.

The Award was made for the company's export performance in 1969-1970 and recognises the continuation of our export success for yet another year. No other avionics manufacturer has been able to achieve this level of performance in these increasingly competitive times. In fact, only two other companies in the country have yet won

more than three Awards in the last five years.

It is natural to question the value to the company of this Award, coming as it does at a time when, World-wide, the aviation industry is experiencing grave problems.

Certainly, the Queen's Award is not a passport to immediate new orders, but there can be no question that potential customers will see in this recent success a positive indication of our abilities to serve them. And in a buyer's market, this counts for more and more.

EILEEN PLANS A TRIP



(Picture by Peter Tromp).

FIVE members of the Elliott Social Club are chosen at each annual Christmas Dance to receive £100 towards the cost of a holiday.

All members' names are automatically entered, and drawn at random. This year the five lucky winners were R. Springett (ISD), Mrs J. Sutton (ISD), M. Thomas (Fisher), E. Lowe (FCD) and Mrs E. Fullwood (FCD).

Eileen Fullwood, pictured above, works in the assembly section of FCD. When she heard the news, she immediately decided to use the money to help her visit a brother in Canada, whom she had not seen for over 18 years. "I was thrilled because on my income I would never have been able to save my fare and keep, and consequently I feel that this will be a holiday of a lifetime." She also said "..... I feel that this is something I would never have dreamt possible, and I am most grateful to the Social Club Committee who thought of the scheme."

Eileen's brother, who lives in Toronto, was extremely excited to learn of her proposed visit and has written to say that he has arranged his holidays to coincide with her stay in Canada.

....And a Fifth Safety Award

ALSO happily becoming an annual distinction is the award to the Rochester establishment of the British Safety Council's official industrial safety award for the fifth successive year.

This is a real feather in our cap, because it means that detailed records officially scrutinised show that the accident rate in the Rochester factory is more than one-third lower than the nation-wide average for our kind of industry.

This has been an excellent record for

Mick Moore, the Security Supervisor and Safety Officer, and it will be a challenge for Harry Staff, recently appointed Assistant Safety Officer.

It is, of course, also an achievement for everyone who managed not to have an accident!

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Hot Foot to Munich

MARCH and April saw FCD and other divisions working at full stretch to complete proposals for systems in the MRCA combat aircraft. This picture shows some of the packages containing one of the proposals, wrapped in accordance with NATO specification, being loaded on board an EFA Aero Commander at Gatwick, prior to being flown direct to Munich. Pausing briefly in the rain for Valery Evans' camera are, left to right, Earl Palmer, FCD military sales manager, and Ray Reese, ISD Manager, who together escorted the packages, Sam Watson, FCD Sales, Jack Beadle, FCD embodiment loan officer, Arthur Southall, EFA Chief Pilot, and Ron Cooke, Transport Manager.



RUN OVER by a bus

RADIO Medway listeners may have heard Dave Lucas, ISD, give what he "modestly" admits was a magnificent performance as solo tenor in Sir John Stainor's Crucifixion on Easter Sunday evening. Dave was performing with the Christchurch Luton Choral Society. He was able to listen to the programme because it had been recorded on the previous Tuesday.

It was during the recording session that Dave had a problem. Reaching a significant cadence in the music and being inspired by the moment, he gave it all he had and achieved a magnificent final top F. To Dave's horror, the recording engineer rejected the effort out of hand and to prove his point he played it back. There, sure enough, was the triumphant top F, a masterpiece even by Dave's high standard; but lurking behind it was the drain-like gurgle of a sick bus outside the church door.



The Lynx is Flying

MORE new FFA equipment took the air on Sunday, March 21, when the Westland Lynx helicopter, ordered for the French and British armed services, made its first two flights at Yeovil in Somerset. FCD is developing the autopilot and auto-stabiliser (see picture at left) for the Lynx, and the four actuators on the right were installed during the first flight. The remaining units will be installed by stages as test flying progresses. The autopilot will be able to bring the Lynx from forward cruise to a controlled hover at a preselected height at the touch of a button.

British and French requirements are for several hundred Lynxes, with first deliveries due late in 1973. There are possibilities of a further 150 or so to be sold to the US Navy through Sikorsky for the LAMPS ship-board helicopter programme. Other sales are also possible.

The Lodger Dined Out

From a field engineer's report

"Due to the operator's removing the Pitot Static Test Set Mark 3 from the cabinet from time to time, thus leaving a large open space in the front, a rat had adopted the Test Set as a rather comfortable home and toilet; fortunately the lodger dined out."

"However, in consequence of the rodent's deposits and general environmental dirt, the insulation resistance of the external connections to chassis was down to 1 meg."

Police Cadets Defeated

ELEVEN Elliott first year apprentices have every right to feel pleased with themselves. They recently beat the Maidstone Police Cadets football team at their headquarters.

Despite the fact that this was the first time the boys had played together, they won 7 - 0. Top scorer was Nick Chatham, with three goals, followed by Clifford Norris and Steve Swindle with two each.

Apprentice team members were I. Prett, Captain, and R. Mercer, K. Taylor, D. Harvey, M. Richards, G. Thomas, J. Rawlinson, R. Cumming, C. Norris, S. Swindle and N. Chatham.

MAKE A DATE

Athletics

THE 8th Inter-Divisional Sports Day has been fixed for June 12. Entry forms are available from the divisional administration officers and the Social Club, and should be submitted no later than May 29.

Football

Inter-Divisional Knock Out Competition 2nd Round:

ATE	v	FCD "B"
CMS	v	ACD or IND
ISD	v	Fisher "A"
Fisher "B"	v	Apprentices

Final of the competition will be held at the Elliott Sports Ground on May 26.

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DOUBLE YOUR MONEY AT MACVEST!

A PACKED annual general meeting of the Macvest Investment Club held at the *General at Sea*, was told of a highly successful year. The club unit value, despite poor performance of the general share market, rose by 42.5% during the year and the club's assets rose from £3,000 to £4,000.

Founded in 1964, Macvest has achieved a consistently good return on investment and the founder members' investments have earned an annual return in excess of 12%.

Membership is currently being extended and potential members should contact the club Secretary, Cliff Nurmohamed (FCD) on internal 457.

ACTIVE YEAR

The club has had an active year dealing in 25 different shares mainly in the leisure and financial fields. It has also held some

Whitbread shares for just over a year, and felt that, to review the investment thoroughly, an on-the-spot investigation was called for. Accordingly, a visit to Fremlin's Brewery was arranged where particular attention was given to quality assurance standards.

The tour finished in Final Inspection Test where acceptance sampling revealed a quality rating of Grade *** for the bitter. At the Final Design Review (FDR) of the Design Review Board (DRB) some inter-divisional disagreement arose between FCD and ATED on the correct proportion of County (5*) ale and mild (2*) to meet MIL-V-173.

technologist apprentice was presented to R.W. Dennis.

Mr Gedge told the apprentices . . . "This country is in a bit of a mess at the moment and you young men have got a job to do putting it back where it always has been." He warned them to be sure . . . "to capitalise on our techniques and do not let our friends across the water, east or west, take the fruits of our production field."

Prize Day



MR George Gedge, who rose from an apprentice with Short Brothers in Rochester to become Managing Director of British Aircraft Corporation's Concorde-building factory at Bristol, returned to Rochester on March 26 to present prizes and apprenticeship agreements to the Elliott apprentices.

The Apprentice School, which serves both Elliott Flight Automation and Elliott Control Valves, now has a history spanning almost twenty years. There are now over 200 apprentices, and the annual intake is 60.

Mr Gedge presented two special prizes to apprentices in each year of the course. Prizes for 1st year apprentices went to M.R. Collins and R.J. Sussmes; 2nd year, K. Medhurst and R. Taylor; 3rd year, P. Randall and W. Hayton; 4th year, C. Sparrow and S. Gest; 5th year, N.H.R. Clark and B. Read.

R.S. Fedarb received the Foremen's Prize for the best qualifying craft apprentice. The Chief Engineer's Prize, for the best technician apprentice went to A.F. Heath; and the Divisional Managers' Prize for the best



Final year apprentice Colin Sparrow, shakes hands at the prize-giving ceremony with George Gedge, managing director of BAC Filton Division. Looking on, left, are Mr J.R. Moore, Managing Director of GEC-Elliott Control Valves, and Mr J.E. Pateman, Managing Director of Marconi Elliott Avionic Systems Ltd and Elliott Flight Automation. Chatham News picture

Take Your Pick

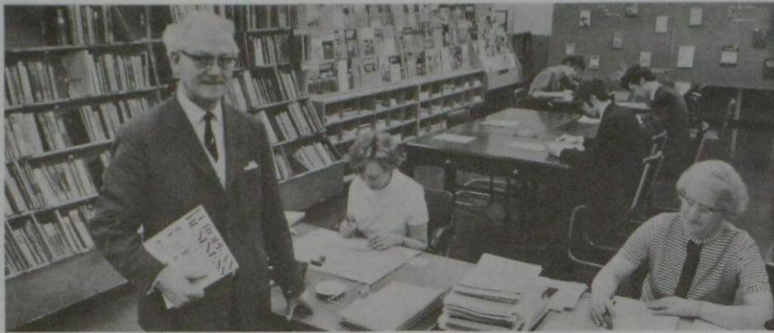
Social Club activities now include no fewer than 23 different sports or interests. We list them here, together with a contact for each. The Camera, Cricket and Swimming sections can be contacted for the present through Jim Collins, Social Club Secretary.

Archery	R. Bloodworth, internal 730
Astronomy	B. Smith, internal 595
Athletics	L. Murphy, internal 361
Aquarists	E. Woods, internal 552
Canoeists	A. Huckstep, internal 237
Cine	A. Morrison, internal 303
Climbing	R. Dennis, internal 32
Darts and Cards	L. Milton, internal 217
Drama	Mrs. G. Barnes, internal 418
Football	L. Richardson, Fisher Welding
Golf	J. Hammond, internal 644
Horticulture	F. Eldridge, internal 237
Judo	S. Alderman, internal 217
Lawn Tennis	J. Guillon, internal 629
Model Aircraft	C. Atkins, internal 361
Musicians	B. Skinner, internal 217
Netball	A. Springate, internal 565
Rifle	C. Hayman, internal 244
Table Tennis	R. Sands, internal 603
Tug-of-war	S. Randawn, internal 217

OUR ELLI-CAT



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EFA Chief Librarian Jim Cook presents the reading room of his new library in the main works. At their desks beside him are (left to right) Lynn Weller and Dot Rose.
Picture by Valerie Evans

EFA Library

THE library houses some 100,000 items, and when multiple copies are taken into account, is ultimately responsible for approximately half a million titles," claims Jim Cook, EFA's Chief Librarian.

The Technical Library provides the following services: document distribution, information retrieval, dissemination of information to the whole of EFA, compilation and issue of current awareness bulletins, document amending, back-up data on products and production engineering, translations in all languages, bibliographies and reading lists.

The library deals with an average of over 300 enquiries a day. All divisions within EFA and certain areas of the General Electric Company as a whole deal with the department on a voluntary basis and charges are based on the recovery of costs incurred.

The library is well known for its stocks of American working documents such as standards and specifications. Because of its contacts in Britain and overseas, a full maintenance and follow-up service can be applied to all items issued from the library.

Facilities include a well furnished reading room, a reference library which includes a display of approximately 200 journals and 2,000 technical and reference books.

The Product Information Section is backed up by the inclusion of the Technical Indexes Product Retrieval System which contains over 130,000 pages of information on electronic products. For quick retrieval, this can be wound through a viewer on a 16 m/m film at the rate of 20,000 pages per minute.

The library index and retrieval system is computerised and at the moment contains over 16,000 references and over 8,000 cross-references. This system is known as IRIS and the input is carried out by the library staff

and uses *Free Language Techniques*. The programming and production is carried out by EDP division. The IRIS information is presented in catalogues and dictionaries and is available in the library and in some divisions.

The library has access to all types of information through memberships and co-operative schemes with other libraries. The information officers are in contact with all the associations and societies necessary to maintain an adequate flow of information to all levels within the company.

Jim Cook, who is in his twentieth year of service with the company was appointed Chief Librarian in 1969. He serves on the Association of Special Libraries and Information Bureaus (ASLIB) Electronics Group Committee and is a full member of the Institute of Information Scientists.



Lynn Weller selects one of the 100,000 documents stocked in the EFA library. Picture by Valerie Evans

Social Club Events

For the "Saturday night at the Elliott club house" specialists, here are the music makers for May.

May 1	Arthur Brown
May 8	Temple Farm Trio
May 15	Banbury
May 22	Versatiles
May 29	Temple Farm Trio

ARCHERS International

ELLIOTT archers have often distinguished themselves in county matches, but now Norman Morris, an associate member of Elliott Archers, has been selected to shoot for the British team in the International Trials at Chester on June 19 and 20. He will be shooting alongside some of the top archers from other European countries.

Continuing the successful county performance, Norman and Tony White (FCD), have both been selected to shoot for Kent on May 1 in the first of this year's inter-county matches.

This is the first time for Tony, who became an Elliott archer in 1968, after passing through the beginners tuition course, and won the Club Championship in 1969.

EFA Fire Fighters

THE spectacular fire, which destroyed Rochester Flying Club at the end of the Easter holiday, turned the attention of EFA News to our own firefighters and their experiences.

Elliott men trained as firemen work throughout the factory, on day and night shifts. On Monday evenings, they continue training or maintain equipment, for which they are paid. When a smouldering fire started in Tower 2 on March 30, fireman "Roly" Crust was working close by. He was soon joined by John Parkins, sub-officer and senior Elliott fireman, and assisted by FCD controller Roger Massey, Gilbert Lloyd-langston and Security Guard Heap, they prevented further damage.

On April 14, the day after the airport fire, some waste material in the extraction duct from a Fisher paint booth caught fire during the night shift. Fireman Stan Osborn, EFA night electrician, and Robin Sharp, Fisher machine shop, and others dealt with the fire until Kent Fire Brigade arrived to cool and damp things down.

There have been five small outbreaks like this during the 1970 - 1971 year and all but one have been stopped by the works firemen. The fifth, on an open air site, was put out by a security guard.

By the way, there is always room for more firemen. Anyone interested should contact Safety Officer Mr Moore.

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