

**BIG BU\$INE\$\$ IN THE \$TATE\$** ADD's latest US order

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presenting a raster (TV-like) display, as well as stroke-written symbols. The raster display device depicts the inght scene, as produced by a forward-looking infra-red (FLR) imager, superim-posed exactly in scale and in the correct location, so that the pilot literally sees in the dark. One of the important features of the holographic technique is the large instan-taneous field of view (30° azimuth by 17° vertical)

GEC AVICONICS Rochester Establish

GEC Avionics is by far the world's leading HUD manufacturer, having pro-duced over 6500 HUDs, with a further 2000 currently on order.

Excellent Christmas news for ADD—the recently relo-cated Production Depart-ment will be more than busy with this and other orders, for



Ian May, Production Fitter, working on the first model of ADD's new HUD.

## **Boeing selects GEC** Avionics in new **Airliner Competition**

As briefly announced in the last issue, GAv is one of two international firms selected by the Boeing Commercial Airplane Company to compete in the pre-produc-tion phase of development of advanced flight control computers, intended for use in Breining new technology. Boeing's new technology 7 airliner. After keen ompetition, in which GAv as the only non-US company considered by Boeing, two companies have been selected as finalists to carry out parallel develop-ments. When both of the new computer systems have been evaluated by Boeing, one will be selected to equip 7J7 aircraft.

Flight Controls Division has proposed a computer design which introduces prototypes with advanced

new concepts aimed at fly-by-wire computers and increased reliability opera-currently supply the system tons. "Fly by wire' is one of fitted to the UK's EAP the systems designated by aircraft types equipped such concepts. FCD has with GEC Avionics auto-bate a world leader in matic flight control equip-automatic light control for 35 ment are Boeing 747, years and a pioneer of ly-by-vire systems. The company A320 and A300–600 also previously equipped Boeing VC10 and BAC1-11 artimers. YC-14 military transport

## **TO YOU ALL** ATE NEWS

#### **RAF Nimrod and RAAF Orion fleets now fully** equipped

Five months ahead of schedule, MASD has completed deliv-ery of AQS-901 Acoustic Processing and Display systems to the Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF) for service on their Lockheed P-3C Orion aircraft.

#### FURTHER **ANNOUNCEMENTS: RAF Win International Competition with GAv** Sub-Hunting System

RAF Nimrod, equipped with GEC Avionics AQS-901, has won the prestigious Fincastle Trophy in Adelaide, competing against Australia, Canada and New Zealand. **Congratulations to MASD!** 

#### Message from ATED

ON TIME ... ON SPEC ... ON BUDGET. EARLIEST POSSIBLE DELIVERY 28/11/86...

DELIVERED 28/11/86 ITEM: FOURTH SCADC 'ORION' ATE . ATED PROUD TO BE ASSOCIATED-

BON CHANCE ISD.



March, there is to be a ceremony at Airport Works, at which Her Majesty's Lord Lieutenant for the County of Kent will present the Award.



## **BIGGER THIS YEAR!**

Haloweien was chosen to be the day to judge the ADD D/O gardening section pumpkin competition. Twenty of the D/O's expert growers had seed to sow but some fail at a very early stage. Some had seeds that dialed to germinate while others managed to get seedings that just went orthen. Once plants were established, the next prob-lem to overcome was to make the flowers bear fruit, and then stop the fruit from failing off. Problems like these sorted out the non-committed and left a select band of green-fingered pumpkin men who were going to go all the way. May weird and wonderful techniques were reputedly enployed in the hope of producing a "whoper". These included feeding with sugar water, birth pills or beer and Jaan Collins who had been booked to judge the winner and present the prizes had been unavoid-ab den unavoid-

gone to even greater expense to secure the services of ADD's greatest horticultural expert Mrs. Gladys Douglas. She set to judging the entries with great gusto, weeding out the also rans with merciless care to announce Mark Cheeseman's pumpkin the winner. Mark had dug a big hole which he filled with manure and into which he planted his embryo. The old sages up the allotment gave him plenty of advice to enable him to produce his near 30 pounder not least of

which was 'get your Mum to water it every day'. Runner pushed Mark very close for 1st place and claimed pushed Mark very close for 1st place and claimed provide the second second provide the second second provide the second second who came back strong after bear's carrot competition for cutting the tops off his entre. The growers' organisers fring new looking for some string new to grow next year and may plump for some and may plump for some some second second

Left to right: 3rd Chris Bowman; Judge Mrs. Gladys Douglas; 1st Mark Cheeseman; 2nd Steve Liddle.

## RAF v GAv (Ladies) **Netball Special**

On Sunday 21st September a party of RAF personnel, attending an SMS training course with ISD, played a charity netball match against charity netball match against the GAV ladies netball team at the GAV/BP Club, Hoo. The game was arranged with help from Jenny Hawker who had served the RAF in the canteen during their stay and who also plays in the ladies netball team.

Considering it was the RAF's first game they played har sitts gaine they played surprisingly well, even though some of the rules were relaxed allowing some unorthodox tactics to be used by both sides! Referees were provided by the ladies team who at the and announced the score as end announced the score as 15-10 in favour of the RAF with many of the goals scored by Dave Cowdell who admitted having some basketball experience and at just over 6'2" something of a basket backtrastence a height advantage

The sun shone throughout helping make the game an enjoyable success, and as a result £250 was raised for result £250 was families in need. Steve Ray ISD

Foreground: Eric Gardi

Dave Cowdell



Back Row: Bob Wilson, Andy Hellyer, Jenny Hawk Rattray, Louise Clutterbuck, Kathy Foster, Sharon Morris, Dave Cowdell. r, Tam Front Row: Ellen Lee, Selina Foster, Lorraine Williams, Pete Wendes, Phillip Day.



## CASEFO = 3 3

At a ceremony in November at the St. Asaph factory of Pilkington PE. Peter Hearne on behalf of GEC Avionics exports which were creating 'real jobs'. The ceremony, at which Pilkington PE's Managing Director, John Arbuthnott, presented the 1,000th optical module for ADD's biggest programme, marked Ty ears of subcontract work for GAV by the North Wales company. Picture shows I-r John Spinks, GAV Assistant General Manager, Trefor Jones, Chiel Execu-tion of Pilkington PE's Electro-Optical Division, John Arbuthnott, and seated Peter Hearne GAV Director and General Manager with Staff Ellis, GAV Company Design Cansultant. The module shorts I-b Inghter, Pilkington PE as supplies optical modules for the great variety of HUD supplies QAV for the export markt. The efforts of the two companies have made Britain the world's leading manufacturer of head up displays.



(Photo by courtesy of Pilkington PE, Electro-Optical Division, St.

# RADUATES CH provided by the canteen staff, the events were also exhibitions of the relevant divisions' products and capabilities, and talks were given by each General Manager on the activities and prospects open to the new graduates. Discussions with the many divisional staff urther helped everyone to gain a better understanding of the company they had decided to join; it was gener-ally agreed that the evenings were a success, particularly for the opportunity to meet senior managers and engineers in an informal

New this year have been two get-togethers at which over 250 newly-joined British and Australian graduates, ex TCPs and sponsored bitectors and General Managers Peter Hearne and Ron Howard, and company and divisional management to Fight Group' of Naviga-tion Group' divisions, as well as FARL and CS, the inten-hove an informal social even to get to know each other and the activities and senue to the detivities and senue to get to know and the tore around the tore around the



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## Presentations in MASD

Two related ceremonies took place in MASD on 2nd October, both connected with the completion of MASD's contract with the RAAF for delivery of the AQS 901 acoustics system for installation on its PC3 Orion Aircraft. Group Captain Wayne Hall presented a plaque to the Divis-sion on behalf of the RAAF Chief of Air Force Materiel. In his speech, Group Captain Hall told assembled members of MASD how pleased the RAAF was with the AQS 901 and how much the co-operation of the Division over the years was appreciated. The plaque, which is a badge of the RAAF, includes the inscription—

"Presented to GEC Avionics in appreciation of a long and successful association on the AQS 901 project for RAAF P3C Aircraft— Oct. 86."



On the same occasion, MASD presented a farewell gift to Squadron Leader Gary Moreland, who was completing his tour as the last incumbent of the post of RAAF Resident Engineer. Squadron Leader Moreland was given an engraved tankard, suitably filled with a can of Fosters Lager, by the Divisional Manager, Laure Hampson. The Divisional Manager, in his farewell speech, paid tribute to the long-standing and close relationship between Res Eng. and MASD staffs and congratulated Squadron Leader Moreland, instity on his complete recovery from the severe road acci-dent which he suffered 18 months ago and also on the fact that he and his wife were taking home two little Poms, whom they didn't bring with them. The Morelands have acquired two sons since they came to England, both of whom will be eligible to play on either the England or the Australian Test Team.



Gary Moreland (with empty? tankard) with some of his many friends and colleagues in MASD (A

Group Capt, Wayne Hall hands over the plaque to Laurie Hampson (A)

**End of the Canoe Expedition** 

On 27th September in weather that was in all respects similar to that experienced four months On experienced four months before on the morning they departed on their adventure, **Richard Elliott** (AS&RD), Bill Taylor, and Mick Wibrew returned "Home" to Gillingham Strand after success fully circumnavigating the British Isles and Ireland.

Initially it was difficult to pick the three out, as they paddled in surrounded by paddied in surrounded by fellow members of Gilling-ham Canoe Club and many small bunting-covered craft. Richard was surprised to see his father in one of the single his latter in one of the single seater cances amongst his friends—Dad thought that he would surprise him and welcome him home in the most fitting manner.

most litting manner. Coming ashore on a quickly ebbing morning tide, looking happy, bronzed and (surprisingly) fatter, the three adventurers were happy to be subjected to a barrage of questions from a TVS camera crew, local and

camera crew, local and Sunday newspaper camera-men and reporters. The small crowd that turned out to velcome them on their return not only included their friends, rela-tives and loved ones, but a personal meeting and congratulations from the Mavor. Mayor.

Shortly after the initial greetings and interviews Glen Bartle (AS&RD Quality



ecoming for the three

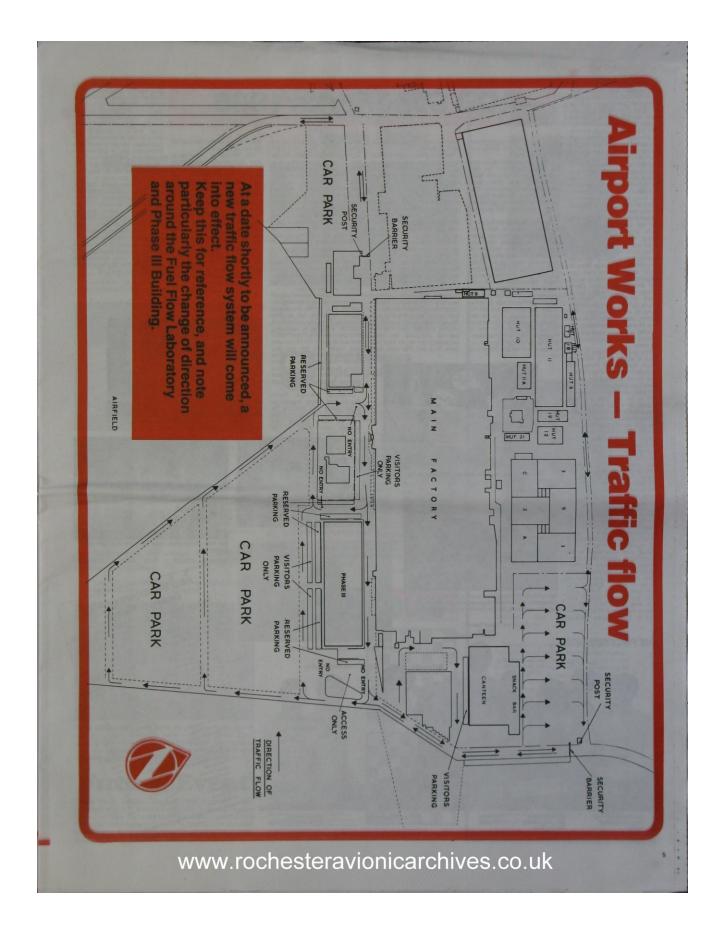
Surveyor) stepped forward and handed to Richard a cheque for £200, which is to be distributed between the Bob Champion Cancer Trust and Operation Raleigh, the two charities for which the three were raising money on their travels

Richard commented that Yes he was glad to finish and Yes it was the longest (and sometimes most uncomfortable) four months of his life.

A week later, with Richard now saying that it seemed no more than a dream, he was resuming work in AS&RD's workshop



The money raised for the £200 cheque presented by **Glen Bartle** came largely from a raffie for his specially painted picture of a Kentish scene. The water-colour was won by **Brian Ellender**, of QA Dept, seen here receiving his pize from Glen. The artist had decided to offer his tailent in support of the charities, inspired by the efforts of his colleague Richard and his companions.



took place in October with the Division's employees part. The format was to be win the superjerks te Bloore with Steve

dike Bloote when d. Itcher and Phil Roberts each other £5.00 that uid beat the other to the rifle shooting to the rifle shooting did not feel quite qo ting equal rton. Steve sting with a Keeling's to instruct competitors to nothing because the g was abysmal although owe did well. Being left d and right eyed did not ther from beating most of n

ner from bearing most of jrunt and groan brigade action for the 4th event was weight lifting. The te was benchpress and be decided by weight re body weight. Several is succeeded with a lift of on the bar, the best of these was Aussie. Infearlance in 3rd position Ward's lift of 155 ibon thes g good enough for 2nd

egotiated and a repetitions of s have to be

by the Model Shop Megaphone Tim Horrell Bruce McFarlane was a good third. Af the basketball Bruce was the King, he scored his five baskets in just 22 seconds Mark Tickner and Alan Ward were each a second behind for 2nd and 3rd place. Graham Bladon suffered a thousand agonies as the ball would just not go in for hm. To many Superjerks the Army Assault Course is the most

olished the 6ft wall irls all went well but gie's brave attempt prove too much of a barrier, gravity only got the better of Alan Etches who seemed to revel in making as big a splash as possi-ble. Fat Belly Bowness and Ian Simpson tied for 2nd place and

ADD Superjerks 1986

Butch pulled 9 valuable points back on Robbo. Steve Coates is a good swim-mer and he had already accrued so many points that he would need harpooring to stop him from winning overall. In the Ladies event Angle had finished nterest. Martin Horton who has eally established himself as the tivision's champion swimmer vas very surprised to be beaten his heat by Peter Robinson but joth would be in the final with in his heat by Peter Hourisou both would be in the final Steve Coates. Butch confid-cruised into the semi-final that all important 4th p beckoning him on. In their swim Tina and Pat were

UNT.

and neck at the end of the breast-stroke leg, but Pat's slightly stronger crawistroke saw her just get the touch at the other end to win the Ladies competi-tion overall. And so to the semi-final, Butch was looking pocket. to Butch ear of getting

a smack in the gob. The final was extremely close with Martin Horton very pleased to get his revenge over Peter Robinson built was that man Coates who got second. Steve Coates was a very good winner on overall classification, on his way to the Superjerks trophy he came fat in Rifle Shodring. Own Test and Assault

trophy he came 1st in Rifle Shooting, Gym Test and Assault Course, was 2nd in swimming and 3rd in the mile. Peter Robin-son was 2nd and Tim Herselui-Tim Horrell who f Tim Horrell who n the first day thed 3rd. The tion was very rts beating Tina 4.5 points with y just 1 point

as well as the winners. With the formal pre over, next came the pre of the "Alternative Si

to start the wave Thanks are also due competitors and spe ng the event so worthwhile. We h all again next ye

Bean James Sebastian





## Weddings

Robert Medgett, Logistics Technician FCD, and Kay Lumbard were married at Holy Trinity Church Larkfield on 27th September. Yes—he used to be in ISD Logistics.

Ian Yates started at Hopewell Drive in 1979, and has been with ISD since 1980, in Tech. Pubs. and Reliability, now as Reliability technician. Karen Jordan is secretary to the County Treasurer for KCC in Maidstone. Ian and Karen were married at St. Stephen's Church on 27th September.

Company and County Council again. **Chris Last**, Section Leader Cost and Budget, ISD, married **Lynne Findlay** at St. Cuthberts Church Hall, on 27th September. Lynne works in the KCC Planning Dept. at Springfield.



Tracey Hunter, Contracts Officer CACD, and Philip Ashton, Senior Software Engineer CACD, were married at Maidstone Baptist Church. Divisional Manager Keith Snel-ling gave best wishes from friends and colleagues. (A)

### Births

Mark Goodair of ADD Computing Services proudly announces the arrival of a son, Jamie Aaron, born at All Saints Hospital on 29th October. His equally proud wife Sue was a clerical typist in ADD for 4 years until last August, and takes this opportunity of thanking her old work mates for all their gifts.

.29th September is the birthday to remember for Samantha Louise, born to Martin Bradley of ISD Engineering and Lillian.

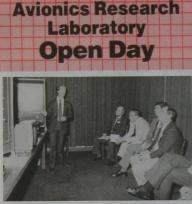
Also from ISD, Planning Dept., we hear of the arrival of Carla for Dean and Yvette Etherington.



Lynn Bishenden, seen here receiving congratulations and pile of gifts when she left to await the arrival of her baby, is now the proud mum of Eloise born 4 November. Lynn was secretary to John Spinks and Jerry Fisher after originally starting 2 years ago working for Paul Rayner.

## **Future Event**

Diane Nind, AS&RD Stock Control Supplies Dept., departed after only 6 months with GAv, to prepare for the baby. Eric West, Supplies and Project Manager, handed over glits from the many friends she had made in the short time. Further news is awaited by the proud grandmother-to-be, Pauline Hayes of the Canteen.



The Avionics Research Laboratory at Great Baddow showed off some of its work to members of GEC Avionics and MoD on September 25th and 25th. This exhibit, on Digital Map Compression, is being demonstrated by Paul Crayson to John Welsh, Frank Adams, Dick Collinson and Brian Tolley, all of GEC Avionics.



THREE This year's prizes were handed over by Peter Hearne at a small ceremony in the Board Room. The winners were timothy Whittle from Surrey, and Christopher Lawson, who uses in City Way. The 200 prizes are awarded annually to Open University students who have completed degrees in Electronics or an alided subject, and who are recommended by the Open university to have demonstrated excellent course achieve-ment and a high level of personal commitment and motiva-tion. Prize winners need not be employees of GEC Avionics, are avoid the company. The intention of the prizes is to revard achievement in higher education, in topics which GEC avionics feel are related to the kind of work the company computer controlled systems for compressor stations, with shiftsh Gas, and previously gained BSC at Leicester Univer-tion but the took HNC with Distinction, industry, during which time he took HNC with Distinction, industry, during which time he took HNC with Distinctions in several subjects during their QU courses.

Both our prizewinners attained Distinctions in several subjects during their OU courses.

**CHESS PROBLEM** Problem No. 7 White to play and mate in two moves

Solution to

Problem No. 6

## 88

similar setting but with a less good key-e was published by Charles Watney in Good Companion" lotder for 1820. This well-known version avoids the unpro-ed check of the original setting, and has 2 

www.rochesteravionicarchives.co.uk

## **OBITUARIES**



Friends and former colleagues were saddened to hear of the death of **Marie Grace Lockyer**, wife of John who is Company Chief Librarian. She had worked for many years in Airborne Display Division's Purchasing Dept, and most recently in Reception; many people were unaware of her long illness. John received a great number of floral tributes for the funeral, many of which were from groups or people whom he could not identify. Through this column he gives his heartfelt thanks to all who contributed—especially anyone he has been unable to contact personally.



Here statt writes. The with regret has I record the death in the Molly Wisdom Hospite on 14th October of Pers Anderson. Perer joined the Security Staff on 7th March 1989 after working in HM. Dockpard Medical Department for four years a cheerful and always writing member of the staff, Peter had worked as a Security Guard the Company during the period 1967-69. He performed his dutes at all company sites but Gads Hill Premises. He was a popular member of the team who took his job seri-ously. The sympathy of all the Security Staff and Receptionists goes to his widow Marion, dapheres Kay and Peta and the grandchildren.

It is with deep regret that AS&RD record the death in August of **Mrs. Barbara Melhuish.** Barbara joined the company in 1973 and worked in the Library before transferring to the Supplies Department. Although Barbara had suffered periods of bad health, her death was sudden but peaceful. Workmates made a donation in her memory to the "Special Care Baby Unit" at All saints Hospital Chatham, this being the personal request of her family.

After a long period of illness the sad news of Hazel Baker's death was nevertheless received with shock by her friends and colleagues, who had not been aware that Hazel had been suffering from cancer. Hazel worked in AS&RD Systems Department as a Punch Operator for six years, latterly as Chief Punch Operator. Hazel's last days were spent in the peace of the Molly Wisdom Hospice. A generous dona-tion was made by AS&RD to the hospice in her memory.

## **Chariot Race for Charity-P\$D**

On Monday 13th October a cheque for over £2000 was presented to Michael Beeforth, aged 7, by Chris Humphris, Chief Engineer of Powerplant Systems Division

Division. Michael was the unfortu-nate victim of a car crash which left him paralysed from the waist downwards. The money had been raised by a select team of PSD Engineers who entered the Whitstable Chariot Race. The race was organised

Whitstable Charlot Race. The race was organised by Ron Hutchins, a local police officer, to raise money for two charlies: the Michael Beeforth Walk Again Fund and the Canterbury Kidney Patients Association. The previous year, around £800 had been raised for charlity, and this year Ron was hoping to double that figure. His expectations were far exceeded, as, with the entrance of PSD into the entrance of PSD into the race, this year's total was over £3500.

#### "PSD Elite"

The Chariot Race itself involved a four-man team, the Chariot, 2½ miles of Whitstable Road and thirteen public houses. The object was for three men to push the chariot with one men areas as chariot, with one man on board, over a distance of



Special Award presentation. From L to R: Jackie, Melvyn, Tommy-Bob, Tim, Chris, Smiler, Michael, Michael's mum, Captain Shag, Shark, Ron, Paul.

two-and-a-half miles, stop-ping at 13 pubs and drinking a pint at each. Prizes would be awarded for fastest time, most sponsorship money collected, and fancy dress. Consequently, PSD aimed at nothing less than winning the first two of these categories. An elit transure protect An elite team was selected from amongst the large pool of talented individuals who

comprise PSD Engineering. The team's entry was plan-ned with the same sort of precision that was evident in PSD's contract-winning American proposals. The team was split into three areas of responsibility mechanical design and development, commercial and private sponsorship accumulation, and the train-

ing and fitness of the entrants themselves.

### F-15 Lookalike

The mechanical design responsibility rested with Mad Melvyn Jones and Smiler Bob Harvey, who used the USAFF-15 Eagle as a model for the chariot. The manufacturing phase prog-

ressed swiftly, with the aid of a couple of borrowed bike pipes, and some secondary design problem. An early design problem, which design problem, which dame to light during speed was the centre of gravity problem was solved by the ongular momentum. This problem was solved by the dolltion of a nose under addition of addition of a nose under addition of addition

bearings. The whole effort was sprayed red and covered with the names of commercial sponsors and proclamations such as "NOT SPONSORED BY SHEPHERD NEAME". When maining at more d. the When moving at speed, the chariot was overheard to be reminiscent of a Red Arrows

#### P\$D Squeeze

PSD Squeeze Fund raising was the depart-ment of Mark the Shark Hise-man and Paul Mighty Mouth Mulvanny. Between them, they put the squeeze on every commercial supplier they could think of, and a few they couldn't. Many of the companies were totally unre-lated to PSD. The financial involvement became so hectic that it was necessary to recruit PSD's Chief Buyer, Fast Frank Hogan, to the

cause. Said to have more neck than all the graffes in London Zoo, they raised over £1500 in commercial sponsorship alone. Another £600 was raised through the personal sponsorship of the friends and relatives of PSD Engineering staff, and from PSD Production, FCD and FARL top caus raci as f exc soor that the print

#### Intensive Training

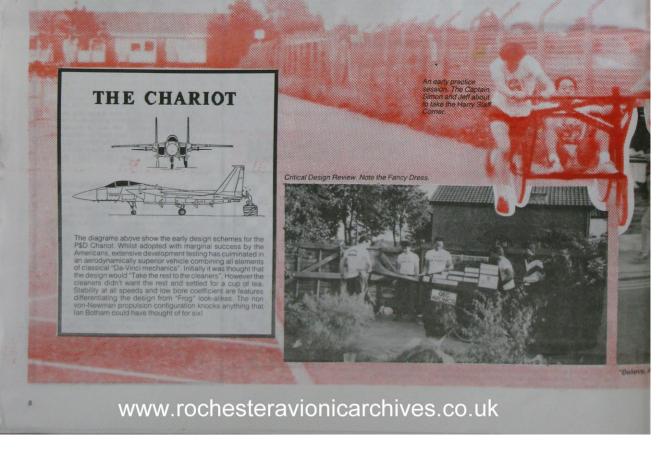
Training The race team itself consisted of a five-man squad, of which the fittest four were to be picked on the Big Day. The squad was led by Captain Shag Anderton, who put the lads through a vigorous training schedule of exercises, jogging and chariot speed trials. Other members of the squad were Tommy-Bob Rogers and student convicts Jeff Inkpen, Paul Doney and Simon Willis. Att Jolly The ed, Cap at a of tr the

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Paul Doney and Simon Willis Additional training was undertaken at various local hostelries, in the art of imbib-ing large quantities of ale These strenuous training sessions were soon expanded to include the whole team and official hangers-on, to build up the team spirit. The squad had every confidence in their fitness, and with the money



## ise over £2000

GEC AVIONICS

looked firm favourites up the two prizes, tup the two prizes, fancy dress aspect d some pause for it, the day before the first idea was to go ballers, thus involving al effort. However, the meet of creating a al effort. However, the ement of creating a al PSD fancy dress took hold. Thus it was he football shirts had rords 'FANCY DRESS' d on the back.

#### lieve, ack, Win!"

with team spirit (from earlier that after-e valiant charioteers PSD arrived at the ailor, Seasalter Beach. start was stagger-ppropriately, and the in and his crew set off fast pace. The weeks ining had paid off as Engineers overtook

competitors and other road users alike. The traffic had unfortu-tion to been stopped for the race, and the mechanical Design team warrower design would have preferable, avoiding the delays due to frieton against moving vehicles. It other competitors, enterprising approach to the event, had out of the lads. competitors and other road

the evening, PSD were pronounced third, but the lads claimed a moral victory, blaming unfair tactics and poor time keeping for the seconds that kept them from victory victory.

victory. The event was seen to emphasise the new PSD approach. Under the banner of the motto "Believe, Attack, Win!" the Division showed they could outperform others at play as well as at work.

#### **Special Award**

Spectral Awaro Ron Hutchins, the race organiser, presented the PSD team with a Special Award for the extraordinary effort they had made, when he was invited to GEC Avionics for the ceremonious handing over of the cheque for £2016. At the handing over presentations ware slowly in front of the lads. Thirteen pints and nearly three miles later, the team roared across the finishing line in an uphil sprint finish. A large body of support was assembled at the Tankerton Arms, where the race ended. The Captain and team wintediately claimed a victory, and cracked a bottle of champagne (or two), presented by Divisional Manager lan Stitt. Later in over presentations were. Michael Beeforth, his mum Karen, Ron and his family, and the PSD team them-selves.

PSD's involvement attract-ed a wide amount of publicity in the Medway and Whit-stable press, and PSD would like to take this opportunity to thank once again all our sponsors, the company, and most of all the staff, friends and relatives of PSD. Here: Chestmast Merry Christmas



PSD CHARIOT RACE

### SPONSORS

Phoenix Tooling Ltd of Gillingham B.O.B. Packaging Ltd of Loose Isophon Ltd of Gillingham Industrial Acoustics Company Ltd (IAC) of Staines Parman Industrial Electrics Ltd of Sittingbourne Zone Engineering of Gillingham L.G. Scott Engineering of Gillingham Vella Wilson Ltd of Canterbury Green-Barbour Breakmate Ltd of London Candy Electronic Components of Maidstone AEl Cables of Gravesend Electrautom of Aylesford Thomas Neile, Photographers, of Whitstable Alroy Sheet Metals Ltd of Stevenage Klippon Electricals Ltd of Camberley

"Moral victory". The team (& sub) after 21/2 miles and 13 pints. Simon, F

Riverside Press of Whitstable Sarat Photographic of Portslade EEV Lucid of Chelmsford Click Precision Engineers Pyle National of Nottingham GEC Avionics Ltd Cycleland of Chatham Tankerton Bar, Whitstable Geoff Wiles Cycles of Strood Pickfords Travel Crest Hotels of Chatham Swan National of Maidstone FARL of GEC Avionics, Rochester FCD of GAv, Rochester Audio-Visual Dept. of GEC Avionics, Rochester GEC Avionics, Hochesi and most of all, The members of Powerplant Systems Division (PSD) of GEC Avionics, their families and their friends.

10

POWERPLANT SYSTEMS DIVISION





ttack, Win!" Poetry in motion.

### The Alternative **Tour de** France (ADD Style)

Now that the days are short and the weather is cold and miserable it is file to look back on those long hot baimy days of summer that we all so much enjoy. This is a tale of a hot August day and of three men and their bikes. Jim and Mike were taiking of a day trip to France on bicycles. Tive gol panniers' said Mike 'Sol can day the tores and since you've been before you now the way, all we need now is someone who knows a bit of the language to get us you'ne choice was Wardy of Avey, a difficult choice by any standards so a coin was flipped and Wardy came up trums. Jim and Mike putthe proposition to Wardy who mediately rang up his wife to see is the would let him go "OK" she said 'but they your dinner money and you wush't come home dirdy". Wardy was like a dog with too tails. Thereis only one problem' he said. 'I haven't ga bike'. The next thing we heard was that Avey had somehow found and the was livid that he hadn't been invited. Now that the days are short invited.

The day arrived and we have a dayneed to meet at Jim's house at the crack of dayn. Wardy had arrived but there was no sign of Mike. 'Let's go to the station' said Wardy. The may be there'. On the trist catastrophe, Wardy's the station was the station of the overlap of the window. The state and was the state at the front thinking we could look of the window. The state and was the state at the state was the state at the state was the state at the state and the sum is state at the state and was the state at the state and was the state at the state and the sum is state at the state and was the state at the state and the sum is state at the state and was the state at the state and the sum is state and the sum is state at the state and the sum is state and



The wanderers at Cap Gris-Nez with the White Cliffs of Dover just visible in the background. the only blade of corn left in the field is doing its best to hide Wardy's face.

had of discovering huge mineral wealth or a major geological feature or of intro-ducing Christianity to the natives were soon dispelled. It appeared that a form of civilisation already existed and this was borne out by the fact that the first shoe found open was a bike shop. Wardy bought a brake cable and Mike purchased a racing cap. This made him look not a little unlike Tommy Simpson, but that was where the similarity ended. Dut the the bolt De Ville the three intrepid explorers decided to head south towards the Forest of Guines was straight and flat with a canal by its side where dragonflies were displaying. Mike said they were trying to escape Wardy's sweat. Wardy was the obligatory to keep up swearing blind that he was slip streaming. Wip found Guines was typically French, a small village spending its time lazing on the side of a hill. It was time for Wardy to do his bit as we needed some food. A bar was found and Wardy confidently approached the had of discovering huge

"Pardon Madam, avez vous a cuppa?". "Leave of mate" she replied, "I speak English better than you speak Frog: what are you having?" Wardy looked suitably put down and politely asked for three cups of coffee. Some supplies were bought in the local co-op but before the local co-op but before the local co-op but before the local the shorts and the strip down to shorts and the shirt. Now the roads began to get nasty, although pleas-

Teeshit. Now the roads began to analy quiet, not a car about, the terrain was rising steadily and legs were beginning to deep were beginning to the top of the hell yardy needed to stop for a the and Jim bided their time until the old man had recovered and was ready to continue. And so into the forest which was truly beauti-thade made for cooler stopped, the forest finished at trackway continued upwards between two contineds. This was an excuse to get off and push and also to remove shirts for some sunbathing. The day was punctuated by stopping in all available

tinish yet another fag. The headed towards the coast. The terrain in this part of France corresponds with had to our own downland so quite a lot of climbing was called for. The top of one of these climbs was at Cap gris-Nez and commanded an impressive view made glorious by the deep blue skies, the golden corn and the lush green of the trees. But now there was no time left to look around, the hover-craft was waiting in Calais. The undulating coastal road hard work and the view over the penultimate climb was one of horror. The ascent of Cap Blanc-Nez was waiting to inflict its pain into the cap the going was easier, either downhill of flat all the way to Calais where time was found to it in yet another bar and us in yet another bar and come to make way to the hovercraft. While reame a plaintive cry from bond to it was Wardy, "Hold on Lada" he should. Two

Jim Beaney

### **Annual Review** of Activities ...into 1987' 6

All GAv employees should by now have received a copy of this year's Annual Review. If not, Divisional and **Departmental Admin Officers** should be able to help. Any reader not now employed at Rochester who would like a copy, please contact Editor, GAv News.



While SCADC production gets into its stride, with some two hundred units delivered by the end of November, ISD continues to receive large teams from both the USAF and the USN to review and progress all customer aspects of the SCADC pro-gramme. In November a group of 40 assembled at Rochester for ten days of meetings and sessions

which included final approval of the F-111 Ari Data Configuration, a Reliability performance session, and a Programme Management Review. Heading up the team was Colonel Jim D'Entrement. USAF, from Wright Patterson Air Force Base, who has overall responsibility for the SCADC programme.



ds, a test technician, demonstrates a test proce Barry Wo



Quality Assur SCADC units. ngineers Jim Tomlin and Neil Wolford 'buying off

he AA "Guide to Trouble Free Travelling in Europe" describes the ascent of the Matterhorn by the Homil ridge the Hornli ridge

the Hominindge to be "as easy as falling off a log." The Matterhorn is 4473 metres high (14,800 ft) and is a marvellous steep pyramid of rock completely isolated from the solated from the

pyramid of rock completely isolated from the surrounding mountains. Two years ago, during a walking holiday in Switzerland, I saw this beautiful and magnificent mountain for the first time. Seeing if from Zermatl, one cannot fail to be impressed by its power. My wife and I have walked/ scrambled up to the tops of some of the highest hills in England, Scotland and Wales. The snow line, however, has been our limit and I considered the summit of the Matterhorn to be way beyond my capabilities. But in the AA guide kept recurring in my mind and it became a challenge I could not resist.

not resist. In 1985 we went to Chamonix to look at Mont Blanc and marvelled at the

Chamonix to look at Mont Blanc and marvelled at the skill and courage of the climbers on the Chamonix Aiguiles but the climb of Mont Blanc is described as "a long trudge through the snow" and had not the attraction of the Matterhorn. So, in late 1985 I decided to climb the Matterhorn. Advice taken from the experts at work was encouraging. Ray Dennis said 'you can do it' and then gave me a dozen hints which showed how much I indar to learn. Len Martin was helpful and gave me information on British Mountaineering Council courses. Rod James was equally confident of my chances of success, mainly by comparison with the real experts who were going to climb the Eiger.

experts who were going to climb the Eiger. The books all say that one must be reasonably if and have a good head for heights. Jogging keeps me fib tul 1 tend to be apprehensive on exposed positions at height. I did a few days rock climbing in Wales and the Peak District 30 years ago to decided to Wales and the Peak District 30 years ago so I decided to go on a BMC course to brush up my technique. Unfortunately the only convenient course was fully booked and apart from a day's casual rock climbing near Sheffield. I did not get any more noractice.

bay s casual not climiting near Sheffield, I did not get any more practice. In August 1986 we drove to Zermati in Switzerland equipped with all the gear ready to attempt the ascent of the Matterhorn. The view from our hotel room was of the Matterhorn's North and East faces, so each morning there was the reminder of the challenge to come. The only safe way for an ineprelenced climber to ascend the Matterhorn is to thire a professional a professional guide. Whilst

order of safety and turns a hazardous climb into a practical proposition. The guide's office in Zermati is manned by a frank and astute man who each day has to assess whether the top and back again safely. He was rather sceptical of my abilities, both my physical fitness and my technique and so he advised me to go away and get acclimatised by going up the Mettelhorn and by climbing to one or more of the mountain huts. Tor six days we walked up and on the hills around Zermatt and enjoyed the

and on the hills around Zermatt and enjoyed the magnificent views of the Matterhorn, the Monta Rosa, the Weisshorn, etc. Gradually we became acclimatised to the height whils the snow, which had prevented anyone climbing the Matterhorn, melted. An attempt to waik to the hut at the foot of the Matterhorn was frustrated by ice on the path but apart from a couple of bisisters we were in good

of blisters we were in good

of bisters we were in good shape. Finally, on Monday, 1st September 1986, the man in the guide's office gave the go ahead. A guide (Pius Schnydrig) was booked for Wordnasday 3rd Wednesday, 3rd September. Next, a visit to September. Next, a visit to the local sports shops to buy a torch and hire a set of crampons. (Crampons are frames of metal spikes which fit to the soles of the climbing boots to improve grip on ensure of the limbing

boots to improve grip on snow and ice.) The adrenalin began to run as the time to go approached. For months I had read about Whymper's first successful ascent of the mountain in July 1865 and the loss of 4 lives on the descent. I went to see a film of a climb of the Matterhorn in a Zermatt cinema to get a sense of perspective; included in the film was a real life clip of two amateurs losing their footing and failing to their deaths on the glacer below.

tailing to their deaths on the glacier below. However, the walk to the hut started the action and the apprehension disappeared. The hut is 2 hours' walk above the Schwarzsee cable station and in beautiful weather I walked up with two Americans who had travelled across to Europe specifically to climb the Matterhorn. The hut is an experience: it is

experience: it is similar to an old fashioned English Youth



Gordon Belcher, Group

The cooking is similar, plain but substantial thee sleeping arrangements are similar, with some 8 men in a room. Toilet facilities are primitive; no water for washing and a single "loo" which was not working and seemed to be a pipe out of the mountain. Outside the wind blew and and the temperature Outside the wind blev and the temperature was below freezing. Only 2 ropes, out of 8 had made it to the summit that day; the rest had been defeated by

defeated by sleet.

There were some 12 hopefuls in the hut, the Armenicans I had walked up with, another American and his wife, a rather elderly Irish about their chances, a German we had met 4 days earlier who got frostbier in his fingers whilst climbing the Monta Rosa 2 days earlier, a Japanese, a New Zealander who had come across specifically to climb the

an Englishman from Bentalls in Tunbridge Wells who had been in the Royal Engineers at Maidstone and a couple of German's I din ont meet. After the evening meal we met the guides Pius could not speak English and my German was very poor but he immediately gave me confidence as he sorted out my gear and demonstrated his down to earth approach. By 9 pm everyone had gone to bed. It took me an hour to get to sleep whils others did not sleep at all. At 5 am we were woken and had a very quick breakfast. By 5.30 am Pius and I had roped together and were climbing. For the first hour it was dark and we climbed using torches. At first, most of the rock was free from snow and ice so the crampons were not worn but it was hark and we climbed using darke and never pullovers or windproofs. It was good advice and I never telt the cold all the way to the top. The weather was superb; no wind and not a cloud in the sky. The climbing proved to be harder than I expected, 4 hours of fairly 'easy standard' rock climbing with some fixed ropes.

some Most of the time Pus and Leimbed simultaneously but at the nore difficult parts he glumbed, belayed and then guarded as leimbed. After shours we have a short here at the Solvay hut (4000 m). A little way above the hut, crampons were fitted which son but make rock climbing more difficult. Mithe way above the hut, or any but was short for the short of the short statute. Plus kept telling me, slowly, slowly but 1 am used to climbing with big stess on big holds. Using Plus is technique of short statute. Plus kept telling me, slowly, slowly but 1 am used to climbing with big stess on big holds. Using Plus is technique of short statute to find good loot folds. Very near the top climbing became easier and the first two parties passed us on the way down. Finally we made it on to the very narrow summit ridge some 2 feet wide a wared to a helicopter which was taking tourist to look at the peaks.

This was the supreme This was the supreme moment: a vast and beautiful panorama, perfect weather, a sense of triumph and a feeling of relaxed physical wellbeing. It lasted only a few minutes before we had to start the descent. Grain drwn is more

tew minutes below we had to start the deloce we had to start the deloce we had difficult than going up. I did not slip at all did not slip guide following.) Plus had three words to tell me what to a 'left', "right', "direct". With these words he persuade me towards innumerable voids, but each time a route appeared at the last step.

As the morning wore or my strength reduced and progress became more difficult. I had made a very big mistake. By failing to take sufficient liquid I had dehydrated and my strength had been sapped

had beinydrake with marathor runners. Plus spotted this and by giving me some of his hot sweet tea, my condition improved and as the height decreased the final pitch. Here we waited until the American woman got down. She had been up above the Solvay hut but had been going too slowly to get to the top and down again before conditions became too difficult as the snow melted.

conditions became new difficult as the snow melted. At 1.15 pm I was back in the hut drinking a large beer and feeling like a king. At least six of us had made it to the summit and everyone was exhitarated. Outside on the sum terrace, the hill walkers admired the views and complained about the quality of the food but inside the clients enthused and the guides relaxed, preparing themselves for another day and another another day and another set of amateurs. Two hours later I was back in Zermatt, returning the crampons and getting back to normality. For me I was far from "as easy as falling of a log" but it was worth every joule of energy and every Swiss Franc.

of energy and Franc. Now I have heard that the west ridge of the Eiger is not too bad. I wonder if...?

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Malcolm Moulton, Company Information Executive, did for need to authorise another Press Release to relate the stop of his 25 years; many of the host of triends and colleagues with whom he has worked during that time were there to see Bill Alexander, give his congratulations insmell the story of his career. This started at Boreham-word, as Systems Engineer, and he spent many happy days in ACD on blind landing systems and autopilots for specific than ager. I at the spent many happy days in ACD on blind landing systems and autopilots for specific than ager. I at the spent many happy days in ACD on blind landing systems and autopilots for specific that the spent many happy days in ACD on blind landing systems and autopilots for specific to a different specific that the spent has a specific that the ter CD, and then a move to the new Heidged PD. We have to the new Heidged PD. Alexander, in the early days he worked solo, but now he but, the ter end was he pointed to report a team working for him. Company Press Office, AU. Michan Moulton received his presentation from Bill Alexander. (A)



Raiph Bates, (left), GAv Cost Controller, and Ed Hawley. Staff Financial Executive, who made Raiph's presentation, agreed that they had both been looking after the company's money since the very early days. Previously in the RAF and with Plessey. Raiph came to Rochester when the Towers were being built, and was the first Cost and Budget Officer trained in the company. Later he was Comptroller in MACD and for some years now has has been in the corporate post he now holds. (A)



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Roger Mayhew, Project Leader, served his appren-ticeship with the company and worked for a short time as a drauphtsman in FID. followed by eighteen years with ATED before transferring to AS&RD in February 1985. Whilst presenting Roger with a carriage clock Bob Bower said that Roger was possibly the only person to come under fire from an "enemy" whilst engaged on company business. Roger was at the time working in the USA on the SSE project, and a colleague managed to hitch a 'tide' home for them both in a USAF plane. However the USAF plane thew across Vietnam and Roger was somewhat alarmed when the aircraft came under enemy fire. Next time, he said, he would travel Club Class. Here he is, with wife Sue and Bob Bower. (B)



Bill Lettey joined the Company in 1961 after a period of 9 years in the Royal Navy, in which he served as a Chief Radio Electrical Artificer working on the naval Seaslug

All cliectrical Artificer working on the naval Seaslug. Insisie. The became a Service Engineer in AS&RD with the Blue beel missie and Inerial Navigation System. Atter five for an introduced the system at RAF St. Mawgan 1968, the went to RAF Luga in 1969 when the thirth of addition was detached, and it was at this time that bintoff decided to sever connections with the Blue bintoff decided to sever connections with the Standard operations of the sever connections with the Standard operation Technical Bersenataive he was the Team for the System of three years, until 1976 when he left was promoted to Deputy Quality Assurance Manager at he time that Stan Balley was undergoing a previous. Surance Manager, the position which he now holds. Build Recompany of his wile Jean, was presented with a cock by Mike Baton, the Divisional Manager. In this picture, Bill is at the receiving end this time (A)



Graham Brooks was presented with a silver service set on 12 Sep-tember. Graham is currently a Tester with GSD, he start-ed off as an [Filett] with GSD, he start-ed off as an 'Elliott' apprentice and then worked in MACD, IND and GSD on test. Off duty, he is now taking up photo-graphy and likes watching wrestling. tching wrestling. (A)



John Hayhow, Planning Engineer in CACD, is seen here with wife Lelia, Confidential Secretary on the '4th floor, and daughter Faith Cannon who works in ADD's Cost and Budget Department. John had just received his Long Service Award from Divisional Manager Keith Snelling, most of his time here has been in Inspection and Planning, in IND, FCD, and his present Division. Before joining, John had been in the RAF and Shorts, including some time on instruction duties. His electrical experience there may have led to his present interest in model railways—the loft is full of them. (A)



Divisional Manager Keith Snelling complimented Principal Engineer John Pointer on his 25 years within the Divisions which have now become CACD, when he handed over John's presentation barometer. John has been involved with all the important military flight control systems since the days of TSR2, including the first digital autopilots. Presently he is working on the T-45A system for the US Navy. Navy. Many will also remember John as a formidable middle-distance runner. (A)



Bill Guscott joined as a Company Apprentice in 1961 and was transferred to Aviation Service and Repair Division where he has spent the whole of his working life. In 1966 he was made an Inspector and served in that capacity until the introduction of the Quality Technician Scheme: in 1973 he was one of the Division's first quality Technicians. Having decided to leave his tools and take up a more responsible role on the Quality Assurance side of the Division, he applied for, and was accepted as, a Quality Assurance Surveyor in 1985, the position which he now holds. holds

holds. Bill takes a very active part in the Divisional Social Club and has organised many functions and activities for the benefit of its members, as well as raising funds to ensure their great success. Bill's chosen gift was an eight day clock which was presented by Bill Letley, Quality Assurance Manager (B)



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14.2

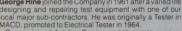
Ray Huntley, Project Leader in FCD, has spent all his time since starting in Aviation Division on the Lightning project, in the MACD/FCD areas which now form FCD. Firstly as TA then after a very short time becoming Engineer. Ray has made his contributions to P1127 (Harrier), CSA, Sea Vixen, Tomado, Faiconet, and lately Phoenix. Ray, pictured here with his wife Judy, says his interests are all to do with aircraft—he is in the company flying scheme and also flies radio-controlled models. (B)



It is far from usual to have a presentation, as in **Peter Gosling's** case, where the recipient has stayed within the same Division for a continuous 25 years. Peter began with the Division 25 years ago, as an apprentice in September 1961, and has over the years taken nine steps up the ladder, to become in 1979 a Project Leaderwith AS&RD. Peter, whose out of work interests include writing prog-rammes for his own computer, amateur radio and photo-graphy, was presented with a carriage clock by Bob Bower, with his wife Joy to share the celebration." (B)



Rod Peerson joined MACD in 1961 working an TSR2, and moved to IND in 1965 as a Systems Engineer and was a work on the Nimod E3 Platform he liped the Jaguar Plat-form through to Production testing, a rather traumatic phase, and was involved subsequently in some smaller systems tasks including Inertial Strapdown IN Studies and the Information of the CTS flight platform design Again he followed this through to operational uses activities in the division including TRN and all strapdown accitated work. He is now deeply involved in basic prin-cipes of ESTART give Address. ThiND he met his wife Mandy, who was the Chief Pro-tions they have 2 children Hobbies are camping and good films. Bob Ruggles made the provided and the straptions of the system straptions of the



George Hine joined the Company in 1961 after a varied life designing and repairing test equipment with one of our local major sub-contractors. He was originally a Tester in MACD, promoted to Electrical Tester in 1964. George joined Aviation Service and Hepair Division in 1966 as a Technical Assistant, rapidly rising to Section Engineer, Project Engineer until in 1973 he was promoted to Section Leader. Deciding to leave Engineering and join the opposition, he became a member of the Quality Assurance Department in 1975 as a Senior Quality Assurance Engineer, and now holds the position of Senior Engineer in charge of the Section. Beorge was presented with a silver plated tea and coffee service by Bill Letley, AS&RD's Quality Assurance Manager.



**'Roy' Bell**, Principal QA Engineer in ATED, came to Elliotts from RAE Bedford, firstly at Boreharwood with IND as a TA, then he came to Rochester after moving into the Test Equipment Division. By the end of various amalgamations and separations resulting in the present ADD and ATED, Roy was with ATED and when their OA Department was formed in 1972 he became Senior OA Engineer, having been Senior Commissioning Engineer since 1968 Remarkably, half of Roy's service has been with the Tornado project, and he spends leisure time from that on beer-making and coarse fishing. He received his presen-tation clock from Divisional Manager Arthur Colwell. (B)



Eric Bassett joined in 1961 in Transport Department, initially as a driver then later in a clerical capacity. He has been in TACD and its successors since 1964, first as DO Technical Clerk, where his principal task was Modifica-tions Secretary, especially on VC10 and BAC111. Eric joined the PDS section as PAO in 1978, mainly controlling Jindivik and DN181 contracts, and when the divisions spit again he went with FCD, on Lynx and Jindivik Mk 4. Divisional Manager Brian Tucker handed over Eric's watch, in the presence of colleagues as well as his daugh-ter Sandie who works in Wages Department. (B)



Brian Hanson, Senior Project Engineer in ADD has taken time from his cricketing career to spend 25 years at Airport Works. From his original job as TA in IND, Brian went to ADD in 1977 and has been involved since with many prog-rammes, now stretching into the future. Bran is seen here with his wite Daphne after receiving his Barometer from Divisional Manager Robin Sleight. (B)



Clive Sherhod, originally a Dockyard apprentice, joined the former AEID and spent some time working on fuel flow systems. After the division merged to become ISD, Clive moved onto Digital Air Data Systems, and after a long spell on Tornado SMS moved back to support the marketing activities on air data systems. More recently, Clive has been leading the division's work on an RAE study contract into Aircraft Escape Systems, as Project Manager in this new potential business for Ejection Sequencers. Here Clive receives a set of crystal glassware from Divi-sional Manager John Colston. (A)



Brian Blakiston joined the company in September 1961 as an apprentice. Following the completion of his appren-ticeship he worked in MACD, FCD and ATED before returning to AS&RD in 1976 as a Section Leader. Now a Project Leader, Brian was presented with a carriage clock by Bobwer, Technical Manager, on behalf of the company, Brian's wife Barbara holds the LSA Certificate.

(B)



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was presented with a gold watch by Bob Ruggles on 10 October. Connie is currently employed as a TA in GSD but joined

continued from page 13



(A)

Agnes Hughes, GSD Stores, tells us: "I joined IN Division in 1961 as



Leslie Woodhouse was presented with a watch by Divisional Manager Bob Ruggles. Les joined IND in 1961 as a TA after 12 years service in the Royal Navy. He is currently the Project Leader for the Digital Colour Map Unit and has in the past 25 years been involved in diverse projects such as Blue Steel, Jaguara md NCS1 and several one-off projects. Here Leslie is seen with his wife Jean (B)



We are overwhelmed with the number of 25-year service presentations awaiting reporting at present and have run out of space — apologies to anyone who has not yet been mentioned. We hope to catch up in our next issue.

ED.





Many people have cause to be grateful to **Ray Hird**, who retired on 26th September. For the 12 years he has worked for the Company he has been a timeclerk, doing his bit to ensure his workmates got paid on time. Chief Accountant Brian Handley presented Ray with a clock on behalf of his colleagues, which should help to decorate the retirement home in Strood to which Ray and his wife have just moved. (B)



Len Olver, Buyer in ATED, joined the Company in 1969. He worked for ADD and Gyro before joining ATED in 1974. Len is a very keen sportsman, playing for Gillingham Poot-ball Club in his younger days, and has taken up Golf and Bowlis in the latter years. Now Len and his wife are taking a trip of a life time to New Zealand to see old triends. To help his packing, he received a gift form colleagues, presented by Production Manager Alex Castle. (A)



Ted Wood



an Nicholls

CMS Manager Peter Burrows gave the company's thanks and best wishes to two of his staff who retired recently. **Ted Wood** retired after eleven years in CMS Paint Shop as a Sprayer and Signwriter, and **Norman Nicholis** started work at Swift and Swallow, then he was made redundant and came to work at Eliotist as nightworker on Bench Section. He was made Foreman of Bench Section on the commencement of C.M.S. and has served a total of 37 years with the company.



#### THE GOLDING DYNASTY

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