

GEC AVIONICS Rochester Establishment

NEWS

House Journal of GEC Avionics Limited

No. 77 May 1986

\$D DOES IT AGAIN

SCADC

Standard Central Air Data Computer

SCADC ORDERS NOW TOP \$100M

2nd Production Order Placed by US Department of Defense

On Friday 21 February, Instrument Systems Division were awarded a \$56M order for 1600 Standard Central Air Data Computers, this second production order came exactly 8 months to the day after the first order last June. This now brings the total order for SCADC equipment to over \$100M.

"A lot of new ground has been broken to get this far, both technically and commercially" said John Colston, ISD Divisional Manager. "There's no simple recipe for export achievements of this magnitude, but large quantities of Competence, Commitment and Investment are certainly necessary." With nearly 3000 computers to deliver over the next 2½ years, production rates of 120 per month are required. Preparation includes the installation of 4 of ATED's latest ORION testers, and 18 Reliability Test Chambers to the latest US Military standard. (More ISD news - centre pages.)

Dave Silsbey and Bill McCutcheon at one of ISD's CAD terminals; part of the early investments made for the SCADC program.



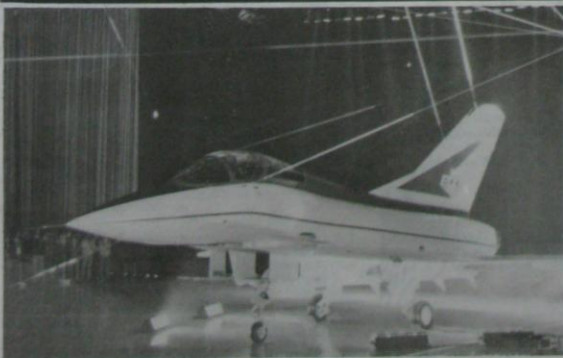
Glyn Thomas MBE Investiture

On Tuesday 25th March, there was an investiture at Buckingham Palace at which Her Majesty the Queen bestowed Glyn Thomas's MBE.



Here he is seen with his family proudly displaying the honour. L-r daughter Frances Rodgers, wife Peggy, Glyn, and daughter Lisa.

EAP ROLL OUT AT WARTON



A number of senior engineers and executives from Rochester travelled to Warton on 16th April. They witnessed the unveiling to potential customers, suppliers and the world's press the first British experimental fighter for 25 years, the Experimental Aircraft Programme technology demonstrator. The aircraft is due to fly by the end of May and will appear at Farnborough Air Show in September, by which time the test programme will be well enough advanced for a good proportion of the enormous potential agility and performance to be revealed in the daily flying display.

The company's contribution forms a major part of the avionics fit in EAP; the systems technology, 15 years ahead of that in the RAF's Tornado fighter enter-

ing service this year, has been developed over a decade of substantial private investment.

Key technologies include GACD's "fly-by-wire" flight control, the EAP's system being undoubtedly the world's most advanced. It derives from GEC Avionics' continuous background work with its traditional European partners, on such systems for Tornado and the AM-X, and the very substantial advances made in the UK's fly-by-wire Jaguar programme. Other key technologies are ADD's "holographic" head up displays and modular air data computers, in both of which GEC Avionics is a world leader and a major supplier to the United States.

In addition, PSD's liquid crystal Maintenance Data

Panel and Fuel Flowmeter are important systems, as well as those from Aeradio Products Division and Electro-optical Products Division, Basildon's contributions. Last but not least ATED's Orion 'Beta-box' test system has been vital in the ongoing electronics integration and testing programme.

The company has now invited European partners, including Spain, to share in the continued activity in these areas and create an expanded base for the supply of systems for the new European fighter.

In the future, success of EAP will be a vital lead towards the next-generation European Fighter Aircraft. GAV's contribution to that, it is hoped, will provide the challenge of an ongoing programme in the years to come.

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TELEPHONE EXTENSIONS

By the time this issue appears, the new telephone system will be in operation. All internal or external extension numbers mentioned in these pages have been changed to the new 3000 series numbers - I hope - but there may be some further changes in progress during the printing time of GAv News or afterwards. Any errors should please be reported to the Editor - who apologises in advance if confusion arises.

Heroic diver helps yacht in difficulties

On Easter Saturday, a GAv-BP Yacht club boat was launched for the season. Unfortunately a squall hit at a crucial time (mooring up) and left the yacht with a rope wrapped around her propeller. Two divers from the GAv-BP Sub-Aqua section, Ray Newman (AS&RD) and Tony O'Brian (ISD) immediately offered assistance. Ray Newman dived into the water to clear the fouled propeller, despite the freezing weather and sea temperature of 3°C! The owners of the Yacht 'Terrab' would like to express their gratitude for this heroic (but mad!) act.

Another Xtra from Halifax and GEC Avionics

With almost 1000 saving accounts now open, and in excess of 5 million pounds lent to GEC Avionics employees for house purchase, it is obvious that the Halifax Group Savings Scheme is a success.

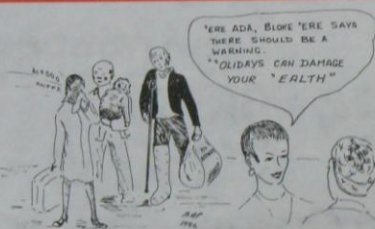
As an additional benefit to you it has been arranged for a member of Halifax Building Society staff to attend each Thursday, starting on 8th May, 1986, between 12 noon and 1.30 p.m. to be available to discuss any of the services being offered.

The Halifax can help you with savings and investment, mortgages and insurance - in fact all areas of personal finance.

Why not come along and discuss your needs and discover what the Halifax can do for you!

If you would like more information, please contact:

Chris Carter - Personnel Dept. Ext. 3417
 or Halifax Building Society,
 132 High Street, Chatham, Kent.



GEC Avionics (Rochester) Long Service Association

The following new members have been welcomed into the Association recently:

F.J. Edwards ADD, J.M. Spice MASD, G.J. Derrrett MASD, P. Nightingale MASD, P.W. Woollett ATE, V.A. Shelly FCD, R. Argent AS&RD, R.W.J. Randall ATE, R.H. Young FCD, S.F. Wisden GSD, G.W.J. Paull ATE, J. Hanley AS&RD.



The Royal Aeronautical Society

Medway Branch ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

WEDNESDAY 16th MAY 7.00 p.m.

Followed by Film Show
Jim Ashton, Archivist of
 RAF Museum, Hendon

Main Canteen, Airport Works

FOR SALE

QUALCAST CONCORDE LAWNMOWER £20.00
 TECHNICAL DRAWING BOARD, Full size with Stand, £40.00
 GIRL'S BICYCLE (10-14 years) £40.00 (or nearest offer)
 Contact Mrs. J. Dorking, Medway 669028 (p.m. only)

WHY BARCLAYS WORKS THROUGH YOUR LUNCH HOUR.

We like to be working when you need us, which is why our GEC branch is open from 12.00 noon to 2.00pm on Mondays, Thursdays and Fridays, weekly.

We have a range of 300 services. If you are only using us to cash cheques, arrange standing orders or order statements, you are missing the opportunity to let us help you in many other ways.

We can arrange your insurances, your investments and your will.

We can make all your financial arrangements at holiday time, or fix up a loan for a new car, washing machine, home improvements or even a season ticket.

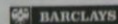
For more information about our fast, flexible mortgage* service, Kevin Garner is available from 12.30 pm on Wednesday, just make an appointment through your Personnel Department.

If you want to find out more about any of our services, pop down to see Veronica Lee in your lunch hour, or call into any local Barclays branch.

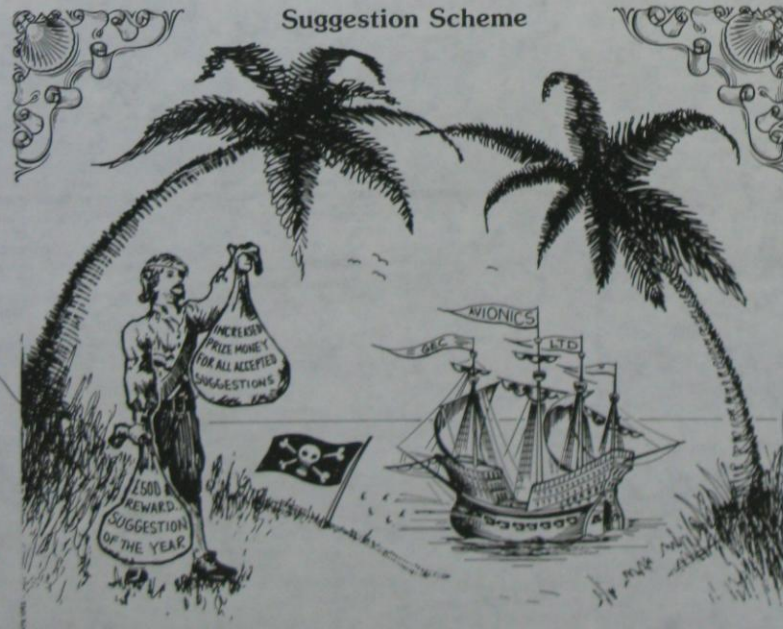
Written details are available from:

Kevin Garner
 Barclays Bank PLC
 30 High Street
 Rochester, Kent ME1 1LW

* Security is required



Suggestion Scheme



A'hoi there me hearties. Climb aboard the Suggestions Scheme for some real rich pickin's in 1986!

HOSPITAL RADIO DRAMA

Hello, this is Geoffrey Hall. On Sunday June 7th in the Main Canteen, Hospital Radio will be recording a Situation Comedy show entitled "A Man Called Harris". If you would like to come along and be part of the audience you'd be very welcome and admission is free. It begins at 7.30 p.m.

You may remember the first one we did back in November. We are pleased to say it was very successful. On June 7th we will be recording two shows on the one night. As they only last about half an hour each, you won't be there that long.

If you know nothing of "A Man Called Harris", then this is basically what they are about. The shows are along the lines of a "Hancock's Half-Hour" though the scripts are new.

Jim McManus, who played Hancock on BBC television plays Harris, and Michael Robbins, who you may remember played Arthur, Olive's husband, in "On the Buses" and was recently seen in "Comrade Dad" opposite George Cole, plays Mickey Morton. Both Artists are ably supported by a very strong cast.

The programmes are recorded in exactly the same way as a BBC radio show. In fact the BBC in London have even given us some of their Sound Effects props. So come along, have a laugh and see how a radio show is made.

Time: 7.30 p.m.

Date: 7th June.

Venue: GEC Avionics, Rochester (Main Canteen).

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Some Senior Appointments

We welcome back to Rochester CHRIS FROST, appointed Manager, Site Services. Chris will at first be working in conjunction with Glyn Thomas, who reaches his retirement date in May.

At Nailsea, HOWARD JONES will consequently be responsible for administration and site services, in addition to continuing as Divisional Manager of PCSD.

Congratulations to JOHN AINLEY, now Personnel Manager for the Rochester site, and TONY WILLIAMS, Personnel Manager for Nailsea.

A new face welcomed at Rochester is 'Bruce' Hopkins who joined ISD as Marketing Manger earlier this year. He retired from the RAF as Group Captain after serving 34 years, more recently in a MoD appointment, but previously as a pilot, with experience of Hunters, Lightnings and Phantoms. Over the years with the RAF Bruce accumulated over 4,000 hours flying and has flown many GAV products. His hobbies include golf and gardening.



'Bruce' Hopkins

In the United States, Bill Broyles has been appointed Vice-President Corporate Marketing for GEC Avionics and will report to Peter Hearne. The Corporate Marketing office is relocating to the GAV premises in Dayton, Ohio.

GAV Inc. in full flight!



(Norcross, GA) The Atlanta operation continues its innovative hiring practices with the addition of five experts in aviation. Shown in the photo above, the new quintet, while acknowledged experts in their field, have been accused of winging it during their orientation period. Group leader M. Allard has expressed an interest in establishing a new frequent flyer program.

The five, all originally from Canada, are reported to work for mere crumbs. Rumours have it that they are investigating new amphibious head-up displays and featherweight lasers.

Jim Grant - Training Manager.

KENT COUNTRYSIDE PORTRAYED

Regular visitors to Art Shows and Art Galleries throughout the Home Counties have become accustomed in recent years to seeing amongst the exhibits splendid Kentish landscapes by Medway artist Glen Bartle.

To most of those visiting the Galleries, it would probably come as something of a surprise if they knew that Glen's full-time profession was not that of artist, but that of a Quality Surveyor with AS&RD at our Flying School Site.

Glen's successful hobby has enabled him in the past three years to have his paintings hung in Maidstone, West Malling, Gillingham and Royal Tunbridge Wells, in his own one man exhibitions.

Born in Devon, Glen moved to Kent whilst in his teens and studied at Royal Tunbridge Wells College of Art.

Glen's work is featured as part of a permanent Exhibition at the Medway Heritage Centre, and is also featured by the Kent County Council Library Service for inclusion in the County Collection.

The demand to see his work has grown to such an extent that, over the next two years, Glen will be holding his one man exhibitions at Tenterden, Strood, Royal Tunbridge Wells, Gillingham, Folkestone, Ramsgate, and Sevenoaks.



PICKFORDS TRAVEL

Day Trips by Coach - Summer 1986

Date	Destination	Cost per person
Thurs 5 June	Southsea & Chichester	£4.50
Wed 25 June	Chiltern Hills Tour	£4.00
Tues 15 July	Winchester & Broadlands	£4.50
Wed 6 August	East Anglia Tour	£4.50
Tues 9 September	Worthing	£3.50
Thurs 2 October	Oxford	£4.00

Pick up points throughout the Medway Towns.

Blackpool Illuminations - 19/21 September 1986

Friday 19 September: Depart Medway Towns in the morning for a late afternoon arrival at the Trust House Forte Travelodge at Charnock Richard where we will stop for two nights. Ample stops will be made en route.

Saturday 20 September: Depart after breakfast for a tour of rural Lancashire and the Blackburn/Burnley area. Return to the hotel for an early dinner then on to Blackpool for a trip through the illuminations.

Sunday 21 September: After a late breakfast depart for home arriving back in the Medway Towns during the early evening.

Cost per person: £57 per person which includes two nights' accommodation at the Travelodge in a twin bedded room with facilities on a half board basis. Excursions included.

Norwich & Royal Norfolk - 10/13 October 1986

Friday 10 October: Depart Medway Towns in the morning for the drive to Norwich arriving at the hotel at approx. 5 p.m. Leisurely journey calling at Basildon or Chelmsford for coffee then via Brintree, Halstead, Sudbury and Bury St Edmunds for lunch and a sightseeing halt.

Saturday 11 October: Morning at leisure in Norwich then after an early lunch, a tour of the Broads via Wroxham, Horning and Acle, Great Yarmouth and Lowestoft (tea halt). Return via Beccles and Bungay.

Sunday 12 October: Coach available for those who wish to attend morning service at the Cathedral otherwise morning at leisure to use hotel sports facilities or to stroll around the grounds. Lunch served at the hotel at 12.30. Afternoon leisurely coach tour to Norfolk coast via Walsingham, Wells, Blakeney, Sheringham and Cromer (tea halt). Return to the hotel via Aylsham.

Monday 13 October: Depart Norwich after breakfast via Dereham and Swaffham to Kings Lynn for a visit to the Wedgwood Crystal Glassworks. After time for a tour of the glassworks, on to Kings Lynn for lunch and sightseeing halt. Then on to the world famous Tony Clements African Violet Centre for talk and demonstration. Depart mid afternoon then via Downham Market to Ely for tea and sightseeing halt. Return home to arrive in the Medway Towns mid evening.

Accommodation is booked at the Sprowston Hall Hotel, Norwich where all rooms have private facilities, colour TV and coffee/tea making facilities.

Cost per person: £69.50 which includes three nights' accommodation as above on a half board basis but including lunch on the Sunday. All excursions and entrance fees also included. Single room rate on request.

Further details of all these trips from Pickfords Travel, Chatham, or from Christine Carter, Personnel Dept., int. 3417.

A reminder from Chris Carter with a complete list of tour operators for which Pickfords are offering a 5% discount to GAV employees.

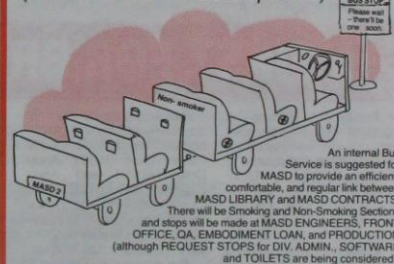
Any further information from Chris (ext. 3417).

Enterprise; Flair; Sovereign; Falcon; Sunstart; Blue Sky; Select Holidays; G&L; Wings; Cosmos; Club 18-30; Global; Intasun; Lancaster; Overland; Ellerman; Planefair; Tradewinds; Twenties.

The discount applies to both summer and winter holidays. Discount will be given to everybody on a booking form provided that at least one member of the party is a GAV employee.

The Pickfords Travel Shop in the canteen is now closed for the summer, but will be back in September. Watch for announcements.

The shape of things to come? (or Further relocation developments)



An Internal Bus Service is suggested for MASD to provide an efficient, comfortable, and regular link between MASD LIBRARY and MASD CONTRACTS. There will be Smoking and Non-Smoking Sections and stops will be made at MASD ENGINEERS, FRONT OFFICE, QA, EMBODIMENT LOAN, and PRODUCTION (although REQUEST STOPS for DIV. ADMIN., SOFTWARE and TOILETS are being considered).

Sponsored Student Engineer Wins Scholarship

Kevin Oliver, who joined GAV last September after completing his A-level studies at Cranbrook School, has recently received some very pleasant news.

Kevin, who will be going to Imperial College, London, this autumn to read Electrical and Electronic Engineering, took the Imperial College Scholarship examinations in January this year.

The results announcement indicates that he has been awarded, not one, but two scholarships: an "Imperial College Scholarship" and the "Siemens Memorial Scholarship" for the top student of the Imperial College Scholars. Taken together, the scholarships make a very welcome financial bonus for the first year at College.

Kevin fully deserves our hearty congratulations.



GEC Director sees for himself

Glyn Trollope, GEC Associate Director (Personnel), visited Rochester on 20 March to identify examples of those good training practices which make a significant contribution to the business.

Mr Trollope is anxious to improve training throughout GEC and at a meeting of GEC Company and Personnel Directors, held earlier in the year, he recognised GEC Avionics Rochester as having a particularly successful track record in training and was

invited down to see for himself.

During a presentation of the company's training facilities, achievements and goals, Mr Trollope took careful note of such areas as pre-retirement courses, our fruitful liaison with local centres of Higher and Further Education, and Ada training. He commented particularly on our ability to train for critical areas where personnel are scarce.

Part of the visit was a tour of the Training Centre at Hope-

well Drive taking in such areas as Design Appreciation, Electronics and our relatively new Computing Facility.

Mr Trollope was very pleased with his warm reception and by what he saw and heard. He is looking forward to our continued help on a GEC Training and Continuing Education working party reviewing training throughout GEC.



Mark Holloway, an Instructor at Hopewell Drive, explains a training exercise on a BBC computer to Glyn Trollope, GEC Associate Director (Personnel).

A FIRST FOR BROMLEY

On Friday 21st February a group of eleven graduates successfully completed a 16-week intensive course at Bromley College of Technology. It was the first time the Training Department had run a Real-time Software Conversion Course for graduates from varying disciplines.

The course culminated in a four week project where three teams attempted to win a contract from a customer. Competition was fierce with the real life problems of time, program bugs and a

computer crash. On the final day the teams were neck and neck. The judges, Andy Hetherington (GSD), Andy Cole (ATED) and Anne Claydon (Training) gave due consideration to each team then, after viewing presentations, awarded the contract to Tacal, who won by a head.

The presentation of certificates and awards to the winning team of Wendy Perkins (ATED), Sue Sunnocks (ADD) and Simon Washbrook (ATED) was done after a formal end of course luncheon with

representatives from all divisions involved. The graduates have now returned to GA and are on a final fourth month training period in their divisions.

The course members were: Sue Sunnocks (ADD), Simon Washbrook (ATED), Wendy Perkins (ATED), Tim Cook (GSD), Gary Smith (MASD), Julia Holden (MASD), Guy Griffith (ADD), Catherine Jones (FCD), David Lawie (CACD), Keith Rogers (GSD), Tracey Stanford (MASD).



The graduates and course lecturers involved in the Software Conversion Course at Bromley College.

STUDENT TECHNOLOGISTS' DESIGN PROJECT

Undertaken by KEITH CLARKE, STEPHEN PENDRY, SIMON COWELL, and SHAHANARA BASAR who has written this account.

As Student Technologists sponsored by the Company, our initial training period was spent at the Training Centre, at Hopewell Drive. The culmination of this period was a four week "design and build" project, in which we would, hopefully, apply the skills we had been taught.

The task of our group, Keith Clarke, Simon Cowell, Stephen Pendry and myself, was to design a unit to house a BBC computer and disc drive. This would be used as an aid for handicapped children. Our customer was Dave Pedder who works at the Rochester site and is a friend of a local family who have a handicapped daughter. Mr Pedder had developed some switch

pads which enable handicapped children to play with the computer without having to use the keyboard. The aim of our design was to incorporate the switch boxes, connected to the computer via an interface box, into the unit so that children could use the switch boxes without coming into contact with or being distracted by the computer. The computer should be accessible to the parents for programming when necessary.

Other projects included a coin sorter to sort and count different kinds of coins, a letter opener and a tracing paper cutter to cut pieces of tracing paper to any required size.

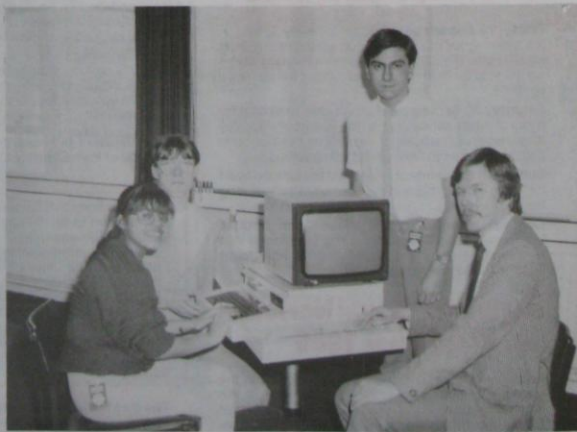
After deciding on a design

and producing drawings, we then had to build our projects. The manufacturing process was not without problems and our thanks go to the instructors at the Training Centre, especially Mr Harvey, Mr Griffin, Mr Davies and Mr Bicker for their time and advice (and patience). They helped us overcome these problems, enabling us to finish our projects on time and within budget.

The finale of the project was to give a presentation to a panel showing the progress of the project from the initial designs to the finished product, the results of which can be seen in the accompanying photographs.



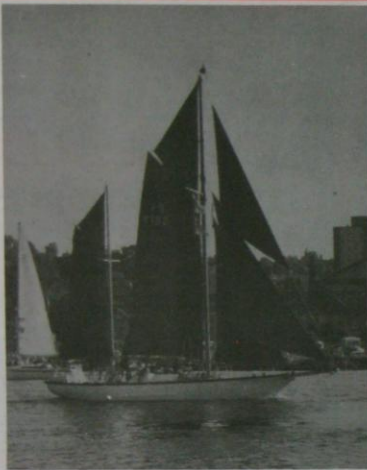
In the front row are (l-r) John Harvey, Senior Instructor in charge of the Students' Projects, and Andrew Parker, Training Officer, Trevor Harvey, Senior Production Engineer GAV, Bill Lowe, Chief Designer MASD, and John Jones, Chief Engineer AS&RD, who formed the panel of 'judges' hearing the presentations. They are surrounded by other student technologists who were involved with the projects shown on the table. (A)



(L-R) Shahanara Basar, Keith Clarke, and Stephen Pendry with Dave Pedder, who is a Senior Systems Engineer in ATED and acted as 'customer' on behalf of the handicapped girl. Simon Cowell was back at City University at the time of the presentation. (B)

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PROSPECTS ALL AT SEA



OUTLINE DESCRIPTION OF THE VESSEL

Dimensions: Length overall 62ft, Beam 15ft, Draught 6ft 6in.
Hull: Ferrocement.
Rig: Gaff Ketch.
Berths: 14 single berths.
Engine: Perkins 4,236 marine diesel.
Launched: 1978.

After the heady days of the Tall Ships' Race on board 'Jacques Cartier' in July last year, Mike Banner, Development Engineer, (FARL) has once again risen to the challenge of life in the North Sea...

"From the end of March I shall be sailing on 'Morning Star of Revelation', a local 62ft gaff ketch. We shall be taking young people for up to a week, and teaching them something of life at sea. A fair few of them are not too keen by the time they arrive, what with fears of sea-sickness, lack of TV and having to do the chores in all kinds of unknown sea conditions. However, the trip invariably seems too short and the youngsters return home reluctantly, having built up teamwork with the rest of the crew and trust in the ship.

I am joining Tim Millward, the Skipper/owner of 'Morning Star', as First Mate. I then undergo three months' training for my Offshore Yachtmaster Certificate before taking over as Skipper. This means that I shall be on board ship for about six of the seven months that I am contracted to 'Morning

Star'. The benefits of development training are becoming well known at GEC Avionics, with events such as the National Young Employees' Competition receiving good coverage in this publication. The Tall Ships' Race also received much support from the company, as witnessed

by this year's Tall Ships Calendar. The Tall Ships continue their work throughout the rest of the year as an excellent medium for sail training.

The crews who come for this trip are generally at school or part of a church youth group. We aim to provide sail training at a

minimum cost, so encourage the unemployed and those who cannot afford the fee for the whole trip by offering reduced rates. If readers wish to know more about 'Morning Star' they should contact:

'Morning Star', 6 Albert Road, Rochester, Kent ME1 3DG."

WINTERBERG 1985

The GEC Avionics 'would-be' bobsleigh team, comprising Steve King (Student Technologist) and Andrew McIlheron (TA, ISD Post Design Services), left England at 9.30 p.m. on Saturday 24th November. Destination, the Winterberg bobsleigh track in West Germany.

12 hours later our travel-weary team found itself on the doorstep of the hotel Am Fichtenwald, welcomed by RAF team captain Andy Buckland, who works at Rochester with the CSDE detachment.

Race practice was already well underway so without rest and little more than a quick cup of tea, the GAv team was required to be ready at the track in thirty minutes!

At the track we were given a briefing on the 'bobs' and the job of the brake-man (the non-driver in the two-man bob). This was our position on our first ride. Andy was first to go down with Andy Buckland driving. The ride proved how very different and exciting this sport can be. Steve unfortunately missed his ride on this occasion as it was too late for bobbing to continue.

We were all pretty tired by the end of that day but still had enough energy to sample a little of the local night life, before getting our heads down.

The next day Steve got his first ride and seemed eager to have a go at driving himself. Andy, however, was more than happy to remain the brakeman. It was now time for the novice teams to practice from the beginners' starting point (the damen start), this eliminated the initial fast start stretch, two runs were to be attempted, both of ours being a complete success. This left Steve feeling very confident and Andy still alive!

Tuesday saw two more practice attempts and our first crash. The bobsleigh rolled over when coming out of a high bend, we were going along at about 60 mph, our crash helmets bashing between our chests and the ice as we gripped tightly to the bob. We travelled out of control, up and down, and around several more bends before finally coming to rest. PHEW!

However, demoralized and shaken as we were, we had little time to think about it and were soon heading back down the track. Only to be flipped on our side at the same point, this time though the following bend brought us upright again to finish

somewhat dazed, but a little less 'green'.

Post racing activities included a runner party - this is where the RAF teams get together wearing silly hats, drink lots of beer and make the runners from the bobsleighs clean and smooth for that 'go-fast' ride. Following this was the very plush Annual Dinner at which a guest of honour is present, and everybody must wear (or look as though they are wearing) a tie - and maybe a little more!

On the two days before the British Championships, four clear runs from the top of the track had to be attained to qualify entry - we made it.

On the race days 5 a.m. shakes were the order, with breakfast down, and kit together, our team went to work on the 'bob'. Because of the crashes our bob was looking in need of hospital treatment. However, what looked to us as a write-off was apparently quite repairable and was hence rectified with very strong adhesive tape. Keeping under the required weight also gave us problems so, we stripped our comfortable cushions out and took Steve's push handle away. This meant he was to sit in the bob at the start which turned out detrimental to our finishing times, but little option was given.

The race times were judged over four runs, two Friday, two Saturday, a practice run being allowed before racing commenced. The team totalled 252.44s giving us 22nd place - remember readers, were we competing against the best of British!

The track was now closed to the British teams until the following Wednesday, so the spare time was utilized with other activities, including a trip to Austria and the nearby RAF base for cheap goodies.

Wednesday and Thursday saw crucial training for the following Novices' race on Friday. This proved to be more our level of competition and we were placed a respectable 4th out of 6 teams.

That night we began the long drive home in a small convoy, the cars crammed with equipment, beer and presents. Thanks Winterberg for an unforgettable two weeks.

Special thanks from Steve and Andy to Mr W.H. Alexander on behalf of GEC Avionics, for the help and assistance in making the trip possible and Flight Lieutenant Andrew Buckland for taking the team under the wing of the RAF.

Let's hope GEC Avionics can compete in Winterberg '86!

Andy McIlheron



Steve King (left) and Andy McIlheron at the time of the Novices' race.



Under the Union Jack hat is Andy Buckland, with Steve behind.

GEC Avionics Athletics Club 1986 Summer Fixtures

MAY			
17/18	Kent AAA Championships	Crystal Palace	Peterborough
24	Southern League Division 1/SINGLE v Peterborough, London Irish, Aldershot, Sutton & Chiam	TBA	Hornchurch
25	Southern League Division 6/SINGLE v Croydton, Biggleswade, VPH		Cwmbran
25/26	National Young Athletes League v Norfolk, Blackheath, Medway		Hastings
26	UK Closed Championships		
	New Zealand Namesake Trophy Faversham 15km		
JUNE			
1	Kent Colts & Boys Championships	Bromley	
6/7	WAAA Championships	Birmingham	
	SCAAA Championships	Crystal Palace	
7	Kent Schools Championships	Bromley	
8	National Young Athletes League v Croydton, Brighton, Dartford	Croydon	
14	Southern League Division 6	TBA	
15	Southern League Division 1/DOUBLE v Newham & Essex Beagles, Polytechnic, Highgate, TVH	Plaislow, McMillan Stadium	
15	Kent Womens League	Bromley	
20/21	AAA Championships	Crystal Palace	
25	City Charity Meeting	Motspur Park, 6.30	
28	GRE Cup Round 2	Woodford	
28/29	Southern WAAA Championships	TBA	
29	National Young Athletes League v Havering, Worthing, Crawley	Brighton	
JULY			
5	Southern League Division 1/DOUBLE v Hercules Wimbledon, Portsmouth, Haringey, Borough of Hounslow	Tooting Bec	
	Southern League Division 6/SINGLE v Stevenage, Borehamwood, Bexley	Stevenage	
6	Colts & Boys League of Kent	Bromley	
9	LBN Main Championships	West London, 6.30	
11/12	English Schools Championships	Portsmouth	
12/13	Opening of Oseingate Ridge Sports Complex	Hoo	
13	Inter-Countries Championships	TBA	
19/20	SCAAA Junior/Youth/Boys Championships	Crystal Palace	
20	Colts & Boys League of Kent	Hornchurch	
23	British Airways 4 x 3.5 M	Cranford, 6.30	
26	Southern League Division 1/DOUBLE v Bracknell, Norfolk, Reading, Exeter	Bracknell	
28	Southern League Division 6/SINGLE v Basilton, Lowestoft, Nerra	Basilton	
27	National Young Athletes League v Newham & Essex Beagles, Thurrock, Mitcham	Hoo	
AUGUST			
3	Kent Womens League Junior/Youth Inter-County	Dartford	
	AAA Under 20 Championships	Crystal Palace	
9/10	GRE Cup Semi-Final	Birmingham	
10	Southern League Division 1/DOUBLE v Dartford, Met. Police, Havering, Ipswich	Haringey	
16	GEC Avionics Sports Day	Bracknell	
17	Erith Snow	Hoo	
25	Kent Womens League	Erith	
31		Tonbridge	
SEPTEMBER			
3	LBN Medley Relay Championships	West London, 6.45	
6	British League Qualifying Match	Stoke	
6/7	SCAAA Multi-Events Championships	Crystal Palace	
10	SCAAA Senior 10000m Championship	Crystal Palace	
13	GRE Cup Final	Cwmbran	
	GEC Centenary Run/Half Marathon	Dunchurch/Rugby	
13/14	Kent Decathlon etc	Hoo	
14	GRE Plate Final	Cwmbran	
21	Kent Relay Championships	Bromley	

TORNADO EXPORT SMS

The team that supply the Stores Management System for the RAF Tornado has just received an order for the development and modification of Stores Management Systems from BAe, which will eventually be destined for the Royal Saudi Air Force (RSAF). This equipment, although similar to the systems already in service with the RAF, will require hardware and software enhancements to enable release of new weapons.

COMPANY WINS C-5B ORDERS 19 YEARS AFTER THE C-5A SUCCESSES

ISD have been awarded the production order for the C-5B Air Data Computer. This follows the award for the nose-wheel steering indicators, thus maintaining ISD involvement on the C-5B exactly as established on the C-5A 19 years ago!

PRODUCTION ORDERS FOR C-5A UNITS NOW TOTAL \$4.5m

Three Elliott Systems for Giant USAF Jet Transport

Firm orders for Elliott equipment for the first 38 Lockheed C-5A heavy logistics transports, the largest aircraft in the world, now total \$4.5m. Gained in open competition with the major US manufacturers, these orders add EFA firmly on the American map and the sales team is working hard to gain other orders.

The orders for Phasem equipment given Elliott the first order of the C-5A heavy logistics transport. The order for Elliott equipment for the US Navy's new Light Attack Aircraft (LAA) will be the first major breakthrough since the first major breakthrough in the early American electronic market. The orders will help from Lockheed's current security production and an air management that Elliott can produce the right equipment at the right price.

The first system was being prepared for the use of C-5As and the contract program aimed at the early stage of development and the production of the equipment. EFA, Lockheed, F-15, T-45 and MAC. Under the program to date, the C-5A has an installed base of 38 units. The first contract allows the production of 38 units and includes 17 units to be produced in the future.

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HELICOPTER AIR DATA COMPUTERS

ISD has been selected as the prime contractor to provide Low Airspeed air data for the military version of the EH-101, which is being jointly developed by Westlands and Augusta. The system to be supplied consists of an Airspeed Probe, Electronic Processor and secondary Air Data Computer.



AUTOMATIC TEST EQUIPMENT

Three new ORION test sets are now commissioned for use on the production phase of the SCADC contract.



Flashback to EFA NEWS No. 1 March 1967

JSTARS AWARDS

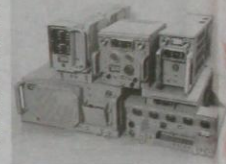
Following a very rapid RFQ/bid/negotiation activity, the division has been selected to supply Air Data Computers to Boeing Military Airplane Company (BMAC) for use on the C-18 aircraft. The

C-18 is a military version of the Boeing 707, and will be equipped with the new Grumman Radar system (JSTARS). The computer will be a SCADC CPU 140/A derivative.

AND YET MORE GOOD ISD BUSINESS

SCADC NOW FITS 38 AIRCRAFT TYPES

Versions of the Standard Central Air Data Computer for the USAF and USN now fulfil the requirements of 38 different aircraft types. The range of applicable aircraft is shown in the illustration (below). Similar equipments are aimed at the British Aerospace EAP, the SAAB JAS 39 and the Boeing C-18.



Major Variants to be Equipped with GEC Avionics SCADC Computers

McDonnell Douglas A-10A and T-47 Dragon

Grumman A-6E, A-6F, A-6G, EA-6B Intruder, EA-6B Proctor and TC-18C Softkiller

Vought A-7D, A-7E, A-7F, A-7G, A-7H, A-7J, A-7K, A-7L, A-7M, A-7N, A-7P, A-7Q, A-7R, A-7S, A-7T, A-7U, A-7V, A-7W, A-7X, A-7Y, A-7Z

Grumman C-1A, C-1B, C-1C, C-1D, C-1E, C-1F, C-1G, C-1H, C-1I, C-1J, C-1K, C-1L, C-1M, C-1N, C-1O, C-1P, C-1Q, C-1R, C-1S, C-1T, C-1U, C-1V, C-1W, C-1X, C-1Y, C-1Z

Boeing KC-135 Stratotanker

Lockheed C-141A and C-141B Starliner

Lockheed C-130A and C-130B Hercules

General Dynamics F-111A, F-111B, F-111C, F-111D, F-111E, F-111F, F-111G, F-111H, F-111I, F-111J, F-111K, F-111L, F-111M, F-111N, F-111O, F-111P, F-111Q, F-111R, F-111S, F-111T, F-111U, F-111V, F-111W, F-111X, F-111Y, F-111Z

McDonnell Douglas F-15A, F-15B, F-15C, F-15D, F-15E, F-15F, F-15G, F-15H, F-15I, F-15J, F-15K, F-15L, F-15M, F-15N, F-15O, F-15P, F-15Q, F-15R, F-15S, F-15T, F-15U, F-15V, F-15W, F-15X, F-15Y, F-15Z

Lockheed F-35A, F-35B, F-35C

Boeing F/A-18A, F/A-18B, F/A-18C, F/A-18D, F/A-18E, F/A-18F, F/A-18G, F/A-18H, F/A-18I, F/A-18J, F/A-18K, F/A-18L, F/A-18M, F/A-18N, F/A-18O, F/A-18P, F/A-18Q, F/A-18R, F/A-18S, F/A-18T, F/A-18U, F/A-18V, F/A-18W, F/A-18X, F/A-18Y, F/A-18Z

Lockheed F-16A, F-16B, F-16C, F-16D, F-16E, F-16F, F-16G, F-16H, F-16I, F-16J, F-16K, F-16L, F-16M, F-16N, F-16O, F-16P, F-16Q, F-16R, F-16S, F-16T, F-16U, F-16V, F-16W, F-16X, F-16Y, F-16Z

Boeing F/A-18A, F/A-18B, F/A-18C, F/A-18D, F/A-18E, F/A-18F, F/A-18G, F/A-18H, F/A-18I, F/A-18J, F/A-18K, F/A-18L, F/A-18M, F/A-18N, F/A-18O, F/A-18P, F/A-18Q, F/A-18R, F/A-18S, F/A-18T, F/A-18U, F/A-18V, F/A-18W, F/A-18X, F/A-18Y, F/A-18Z

Lockheed F-35A, F-35B, F-35C

Boeing F/A-18A, F/A-18B, F/A-18C, F/A-18D, F/A-18E, F/A-18F, F/A-18G, F/A-18H, F/A-18I, F/A-18J, F/A-18K, F/A-18L, F/A-18M, F/A-18N, F/A-18O, F/A-18P, F/A-18Q, F/A-18R, F/A-18S, F/A-18T, F/A-18U, F/A-18V, F/A-18W, F/A-18X, F/A-18Y, F/A-18Z

COBRA HADS FOR JAPAN

Repeat orders for the Cobra Air Data System have been received to meet the licensed build of the Japanese Helicopter Manufacturer, Fuji Heavy Industry.



ANGLE OF COINCIDENCE UNIT ORDER

In January ISD were notified of their selection to supply Angle Coincidence Units to BAe Kingston for their Hawk T MK1A aircraft. The unit to be supplied monitors Sidewinder AIM 9 air-to-air missiles and indicates to aircrew various off-axis positions of the seeker head. Control of launcher/missile discrete functions is also provided.



AIM-9P Sidewinder air-to-air missile

GOOD NEWS OF NEWS

EJECTION SEQUENCERS



The team responsible for the development of the Ejection Sequencer, headed by Clive Sherrod (centre) consists of (l-r) Ed Hingley, Simon Hellyer, Clive, Phil MacCullie, and Phil Simmonds.

ISD have been awarded a contract for the development of Advanced Ejection Sequencers. The competitive contract is placed by the Royal Aircraft Establishment, Farnborough and the resultant trials will be conducted on a Martin Baker seat. An Ejection Sequencer is a seat-mounted device which controls the release of drogues and parachutes at the correct speed, attitude and height for the safety of the ejected crewman. The unit has to be self-powered since it only operates after ejection from the aircraft.

GERMAN F-4F

The West German Air Force has chosen a modified CPU 143A SCADC as part of the Improved Combat Efficiency (ICE) program. The program aims to keep West German F-4Fs operational beyond the year 2000 by updating the avionics. The new SCADC will be very similar to the other units in the SCADC family.



NEXT GENERATION OF MODULAR STORES MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS

ISD's Stores Management System development team have been working towards a Modular Stores Management System which is based on a set of core modules which may be configured to meet a variety of different aircraft. The development system is nearing completion for potential flight trials later this year.



Andy O'Nions and Dave Eldridge working on the Stores Management Demonstration Rig.

DRAGONFLY TRIALS IN THE NORTH SEA

The Dragonfly remotely-operated-vehicle developed by the Offshore Projects Group (OPG) and O.S.E.L. of Great Yarmouth, has been on trial in the North Sea since mid January. These trials aboard the Diver Support Vessel Stena Seaspread off Britoil's Thistle A platform have been highly successful

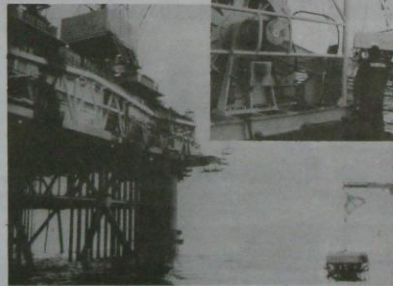
and have exposed several more members of the Nailesea team to the real Offshore world.

These trials also provided the opportunity for engineers from FARL to successfully demonstrate the Stereo Viewing System on the vehicles.

The Dragonfly being launched from the Stena Seaspread.



The Thistle oil platform is the second most northerly installation.



FURTHER ORDERS FOR ADCs FROM CHINA

ISD have received a further order for 80 more Air Data Computers for the People's Republic of China. This equipment is used on the PRC-7 type aircraft. This order brings the cumulative order quantity to approximately 260 LRU's.



RST FACILITY

A great deal of work has been going on recently in the ISD RST area, which is situated at the Flying School. The changes are a direct result of the SCADC production contract. The facility is currently being expanded to cope with a production rate of 120 SCADCs a month.



'MORE ISD SUCCESS...'

In addition to all the division's good news recently, one of the numerous Pools syndicates scooped a win this month. The syndicate of 12 from the Contracts Department are all planning how to spend their share of the 80p prize money!
(Clearly the only way ISD can get these huge wins is to score up these big contracts - last time it was only 57p. - Ed.)



25 years' service

Les Prettyjohn served his apprenticeship at Sheerness Dockyard before doing National Service in R.E.M.E. On leaving the service he joined the Police Force. When Les was a policeman he was reputed to be so *thin* he used to fall through the gratings when on night duty. It is also claimed that when he was called to a suspected break-in he would bang loudly on the front door, giving the intruder time to run out at the back.

25 years ago Les joined Gear Division as a Fitter; in 1965 he transferred to CMS to run the printed circuit section at the Flying School.

When the printed circuit section closed in 1969 Les went to IND as a Production Controller where he remained for 10 years.

In 1978/79 he joined ATED as Material Controller and was promoted to Chief Production Project Controller 1983, his present position.

His hobbies are reading, walking, swimming, D.I.Y., music, squash and angling.



Les Prettyjohn with Arthur Colwell. (A)

Ray Randell served his apprenticeship as a Motor Mechanic then joined ATE Division as a fitter on the Bench Section.

He took an active interest in the Trade Union movement, and was appointed Shop Steward, later he became works convener, a post he held for a number of years. He then moved into the Estimating Department for a short period, and finally into Planning where he holds the position of Section Leader on the Orion Contracts.

Ray has been an active member of the Sports and Social Club, playing for the Division in Darts and Cards and Bat & Trap, and recently has joined the ATE Divisional Bowls Section.



Divisional Manager Arthur Colwell presented the binoculars. (A)

Stan Wisden joined IND in 1961 as a TA, straight from the Royal Navy. He has been in IND/GSD ever since and is currently Project Leader on the Phoenix project.



Bob Ruggles presented Stan and his wife Patricia - seen with Stan in the picture - with a barometer. (A)

'Jock' Insh, Senior Production Engineer in GSD, started his working life as apprentice Textile Mechanic in Aberdeen and after serving in the Mercantile Marine (3rd Engineer Officer) and as Engineer with Islington Borough Council and in hospitals, he settled in Kent with his family and a post with the Water Board, as Assistant Pumping Superintendent. Jock then determined on a complete change of career and joined IND as Trainee Planner. From there he has risen to his present position as Senior Production Engineer.



Jock Insh with Bob Ruggles. (A)

Peter Woollett, ex Merchant Navy, joined the company as Wireman in IND. Following that, Peter was in Inspection in IND and ATED, then has stayed in ATED as Q.A. Assistant, Technical Author, Test Programmer, and is now Senior Application Software Engineer.

He is married, two children, one currently at University, one completed time at University.

Hobbies are said to include Archaeology, reading Science Fiction, also Peter has wide general interest and is keen on the welfare of his car. Also he is a keen TASS Member who has deputised on occasions for Ken Castle.



The presentation clock was handed over by Divisional Manager Arthur Colwell. (A)

Roy Young joined the company on 23rd January 1961 and was employed on the shop floor of Radio and Radar Division which later changed its name to Naval Weapons Division when the Division moved to Firmley.

At this point in time Roy transferred to Military Aircraft Controls Division to work on the TSR2 Project which was cancelled ultimately and then transferred to Transport Aircraft Controls Division shop floor on VC10 and BAC 1-11.

Roy was requested to do a temporary stint in the Model Shop for 1 day to cover sickness on work associated with Concorde prototype and was still there 4 years later.

It was 1970 when Roy joined the newly formed Flight Controls Division working in the Tech. Pubs. Department, a job which he holds to this day. It's reckoned that every type of equipment the Division has made has passed through Roy's hands - as well as the Barometer he received from Divisional Manager Brian Tucker.



Roy Young with Brian Tucker. (B)

Colin Jasper, Project Leader in GSD, served 4-year navigating apprenticeship in the Merchant Navy before joining Elliotts, in IND. As a Laboratory Assistant he was involved with the Blue Steel missile, then went to Boscombe Down for the E3 IN system trials. This led to work on Nimrod and Jaguar projects, on Jaguar Colin led the flight trials team at West Malling, using a Varsity aircraft operated by Short Bros.

In more recent years, Colin has moved into software work, and now is project co-ordinator for the Nimrod Mk2 CTS.

At home, interests include computing, DIY, and gardening, but a big activity is cricket - he plays and serves on committee for the GAV A team. His 3 sons also play - there has been a game with all playing!

Son James is now a YTS trainee, in PSD after a start in ISD.



Colin and wife Pamela, who used to work for the company, after the presentation by Bob Ruggles. (B)

Graham Derrett joined Elliotts a few days after his father Jack (AS&RD), as an apprentice. Graham has since worked in model shops and the fuel flow and hydraulics labs, including time in MACD since 1963. With that division he moved into planning, then the DO. The next 19 years were in MACD and its predecessor ACD, and as recently as November 1985 Graham moved to ISD as Senior Design Engineer, his wife Judy is still in MASD, as Assistant Librarian. At home, Graham enjoys Badminton, Golf, Swimming, and hobbies of wine making, walking, stamps and bird watching.



The gathering at Graham's presentation includes Chief Designer Peter Gibbs, John Colston and Judy. (B)

AS&RD's Systems Manager **Rod Argent** really counts more than 25 years, but he broke service after a year as Draughtsman and spent 3 years as Engineer Officer in the Merchant Navy. Back at Rochester, Rod started as Development Engineer in AEID (forerunner of PSD). In 1968 he moved on to QA work and after a year went to COD, another 6 months saw Rod's move to his present post, in 1970.

Outside his work, Rod is a keen sportsman - Tennis, Badminton, Squash - besides snooker, wine making and the cultivation of prize-winning amaryllis blooms.



Rod Argent proudly displays the decanter just presented to him by Divisional Manager Mike Barton. (B)

An unusual, and probably unique, award ceremony took place in MASD on 10th January when three members of the Division were simultaneously given presents to commemorate their completion of 25 years service.

Peter Nightingale, John Quayle and John Spice all attained their Silver Jubilee year within two weeks of one another. In a related ceremony, Charlie Parkyn was presented with a carriage clock by his colleagues on his retirement. Charlie had only achieved 24 years and three months service! (See Retirements.)

Peter Nightingale joined the Company in January '61 with the then James Gordon Valves Company as a Storeman and, after working with a couple of other divisions as a Projects Progress Clerk, joined MASD in '76 as an Assistant Buyer, becoming a Buyer in '83. Before joining, Peter had been a regular soldier for five years.

John Quayle is an ex-H.M. Dockyard apprentice and did National Service in R.E.M.E. before joining the Company in December '60. He spent 11 years on site on the Polaris Project and came back to Rochester in '75 as a Senior Systems Engineer. He became a Project Leader in '76 and joined MASD in a similar post in '78. John is a walker, golfer and a Scouter.

John Spice joined the company in January '61 after National Service with the Royal Air Force, mostly in

Germany. He joined as an Instrument Fitter and then progressed through a number of inspection appointments until he became a Quality Engineer in '77, moving to MASD in '81. He is now a Senior QA Engineer. John's wife is also ex-company and one of their sons now works for GEC Avionics.



L-r: Peter Nightingale, John Quayle and John Spice with Laurie Hampson. (A)

John Paul — real name Godfrey — started in IND in 1961 but was soon loaned to Gordon Valves, returning to the Division for overtime. Later John moved to PTE Division as Miller, then to ATE where he became a Leading Hand in the Machine Shop. Later still, as Tester, John travelled to sites in Europe and UK. Now he is an Instrument Fitter.

John has tried most sports and was Jimmy Hayes's anchor man in Bat & Trap. He was also a keen golfer, but now in his old age has gone for the more leisurely sport of bowls. On Friday mornings, imaginary bowls are rolled across the shop as he tells anyone who will listen about what went wrong. Also a keen follower of Gillingham F.C. and once played Dave Whitcomb at darts, finishing second.

In between all his sports, he fitted in a marriage to Val who also works for GAV, in Accounts Dept. They have two children Liza 19, and Steve 16.



John Paul. (A)

Retirements

Audrey Lipscombe, 7 years with the company, worked as a Cleaner, Works Engineering Services, mainly in Tower 1, including the 4th floor offices.

Prior to joining GAV she worked at Sharps (sweets). Her husband has 18 months to go before retiring, and they have a grown up family.

Audrey is a very friendly person with lots of friends, and enjoys going to bingo and taking her dog for walks. As a retirement gift she was presented with a TV and numerous gifts from her many friends at GAV.



Audrey Lipscombe. (A)

Eddie Spree joined the company after many years with Bourne and Hillier as a milkman. He was with the company for 5 years — 3 months with AS&RD as a Cleaner and the rest of his time with Works Engineering Services, Transport Department, as a Mini Bus driver on the Main Works to Flying School run.



Works Engineer Don Freeman wished Eddie well on behalf of his friends and colleagues. (A)

Peter Newbury joined the company in 1967 as a Progress Chaser, he transferred to MEA as an Assistant Buyer to liaise with the Atlanta organisation in 1977, then moved to PSD in 1980 and then to ADD in 1983.

His wife Rita worked as Divisional Manager's Secretary from 1967, retiring in 1983. They moved to Herne Bay two years ago in preparation for their retirement.

Peter's friends and colleagues wish them both a long and happy retirement.



Peter and Rita Newbury. (B)

'Len' Davies, Leading Hand Fitter in GSD, originally came from Wales and grew up in Canterbury. Working life started with Shorts seaplane works, and after army service he joined Swift and Swallow, in 1947.

By 1960, after several years as Foreman, he was with IND and has been involved in the building of the first-off

models of most of the division's inertial platforms. Now he hopes to spend as much time as possible travelling and following various sports.



Production Manager Dave Harries gave the Division's best wishes at a farewell presentation. (B)

Reprographic Assistant **Anne Bourke** received a great number of gifts and the best wishes of friends and colleagues from Manager Syd Clayton — their appreciation of a much-loved but quiet person who was retiring after 13 years in Reprographics. Anne is now able to spend much more time with her grandchildren.



Anne Bourke and colleagues. (A)

Ivy Brown, Masker in CMS, is seen here with a group of friends on the occasion of her retirement. Ivy has spent six years with the company, following previous jobs with Thorns and Shorts.



(A)

Continued overleaf



Charlie Parkyn. (A)

Edna Paternoster came to live in the Medway area in August 1963 on the transfer of her husband Gerald from Borehamwood establishment to Rochester.

She started with the Company in 1968 as a Stock Records Clerk in IND and has never worked in any other Division.

Edna came into Mr Harries Office as a Statistics Clerk in 1973, and took over the position of Secretary in 1975.

She has two children, a daughter who lives in Australia and a son living in Hartley. There are four grandchildren, two boys and two girls (which includes a set of twins).

Her hobbies are gardening, knitting and decorating. Edna was presented with a vacuum cleaner, which she chose herself, by Dave Harries.



Frank Jones' career started with 18 years in the Royal Artillery, the war years were spent in Africa and the Middle East, and in 1943 he was commissioned; by the time he retired from service he was Major. In 1957 Frank joined the company at Rochester with the Guided Weapons detachment, an off-shoot of the rest of the division at Boreham Wood. There followed ten years in MACD, and in 1970 he went to ACD, later becoming Contracts Manager on the formation of MASD. Divisional Manager Laurie Hampson presented Frank with a number of gifts to help him with his hobby of photography, and his wife Frankie a bouquet. Their first month of retirement was spent in Tenerife – it rained there too.



Frank and Frankie Jones. (B)

Fred Pound's 11 years in CMS Paint Shop, where he has been Foreman since 1976, has ended with his retirement. Fred is another man with two spells of company service – he was with Elliott companies from 1947 to 1966 also.



Les Voller, Senior Contracts Officer in GSD, joined the company after many years' service in the Navy, and was initially a Planner in IND, in 1961. 1965 brought a move into Contracts work where he has been since, in IND/GSD.



The Division's Commercial Manager John Keeble is seen here with Les, wishing 'all the best'. (A)

Joyce Turner, Wirewoman, has been with the company twice, so to speak. 1949 to 1971 were with Swift and Swallow, and 1973 saw the second shift starting in ATED as Progress Chaser. In 1976 Joyce moved to MASD as Assembler, being promoted to shop floor supervisor in 1977, and transferring in 1978 to ADD as Leading Hand. In 1980 she took up the art and skill of wiring and after transferring to ISD completed training and was promoted to Wirewoman.

Manager Peter Burrows handed over a number of gifts to Fred and his wife Flo. (B)

THE STORY OF A SHIP

One day in 1924 a group of people stood and cheered as the champagne bottles smashed against her bows and the latest addition to the New Medway Steam Packet Company's fleet slid down the ways at Troon in Scotland and took to her proper element.

One hundred and eighty feet long, she was the latest in steam paddle ship design with a bow rudder, feathering paddles and huge diagonal single acting steam engines capable of driving her along at some 15 knots. Her accommodation was the last word in luxury with thick piled carpets, Austrian bentwood chairs, padded benches and electric lighting.

Going down to the Medway she joined the NMSPC's other vessels giving delight and enjoyment to thousands of people from the Medway towns and surroundings as she sliced majestically through the waters of the river to the Thames estuary towns of Herne Bay, Margate, Clacton and Southend.

She soon became a firm favourite with the post Edwardian population and people came from Tilbury and London to ride on this elegant craft. One can imagine her decks and saloons echoing the music of the twenties and thirties as she cruised through the moonlight past the romantic castles of Rochester and Upnor, their massive bulks softened by the silvery glow. Indeed, a large number of Medway marriages were first mooted on board.

However, the idyll was to be abruptly ended and with the advent of the Second World War, the carefree attitude of the ship was changed. Merchant uniforms were changed for Royal Navy Ones and the bright colours of the NMSPC livery disappeared under an all-enveloping coat of grey.

Settling to her new routine, she became a unit of the Paddle Steamer Minesweeping Squadron keeping vital sea routes open for allied shipping until that fateful day in 1940 when the guns thundered around Dunkirk and the call went out to rescue the BEF.

Putting on her best turn of speed she raced for the beaches and gathered into her capacious rooms thousands of weary, wet and exhausted men. Seven times she made the hazardous trip and then on the last run she did not arrive back into Dover. She was missing.

However, she was a real diehard – some time later she appeared in the harbour with one paddle out of action having come home on just one wheel – over 7000 men had reason to be grateful for her persistence – more than any other vessel smaller than a destroyer.

After the war she was handed back to NMSPC and continued to delight a new generation as she regained her original role as the premier day-cruising ship on the river. More people had their first taste of things nautical, more romances burgeoned and the ship became as popular with the sons and daughters as she had been with their parents.

By the 1960's she was becoming an old lady and in 1963 the repair bills and the competition from foreign travel and all



the other attractions of modern Britain proved too much for the owners to continue and the old lady was sold off to enter a new phase of her life.

She went to the Isle of Wight where she did sterling duty as the clubhouse of a marina, impressing a new class of people with her charm and comfort.

However, her success became her downfall – she was so popular that she became too small to accommodate all the people who wanted to use her facilities so she was retired and replaced by a larger vessel.

Forlorn and neglected, she lay unwanted in the Medina river until a group of people who had decided that she should not be allowed to rot away bought her and after a series of vicissitudes brought her back to her old home in the Medway, but alas her troubles had not ended.

In a sad and sorry state she was laid alongside the old navy dock yard at Chatham and then through no fault of her own she settled into the mud to be half covered at high tide.

Now a new group has taken on the ship and is determined to save this unique example of a bygone era. When the "Medway Queen" sank, and it became obvious that help was needed if she was not to be lost forever, the Medway Queen Preservation Society was formed. Since inauguration last June, members have worked on the ship most weekends,

patching and repairing and ensuring that she deteriorates no further. At the same time negotiations were set up to try to obtain a dry safe berth where restoration could really get underway. After a couple of months' work the old ship was refloated, although only temporarily as her berth is not suitable for keeping her afloat permanently and several leaks still had to be dealt with.

During her career, the Medway Queen gave pleasure to many thousands and played an heroic role at the Dunkirk evacuations. She is now the only large survivor of this epic operation and also the sole remaining example of the typical excursion steamer of the '20s. It would be tragic if she were to be scrapped now. If you would like to help in any way or join the society please contact either Mike Austen (Test, ADD), or Jack Rogers (Stock Control, CMS) or get in touch with the MQPS direct at one of the addresses below.

81 Park Avenue, Gillingham
88 Bicknor Road, Maidstone

Story by John Neary (MQPS)

CHESS PROBLEM

Problem No. 3

While to play
and mate in
two moves



Solution to Problem No. 2

Key 1 Bb1 (threat 2 Sp4 mate)
1... Rb1 2 Sp4 mate
1... P#4 2 P#4 mate
1... R#6 2 C#2 mate
1... B#1 2 R#5 mate
1... B#1 2 C#1 mate
1... S#8 2 C#6 mate

Down goes the Bishop to b1, and it is a double sacrifice. No wonder the Bishop in French is 's#u' – matt is there method in such madness? Yes, it is a far-sighted key-move to make 2 Q#1 possible after 1... B#6.

Problems and solutions are reproduced by kind permission of Elliott Right Way Books, Kingmead, Surbiton. Publishers of 'Pack of the Best Chess Problems' by J.P. Burrows.



Photographic Club Album

The Gav-BP Photographic Club meetings for 1985/86 have now finished for the summer recess. The season has been interesting, active, different and overall very successful. Just a few of the notable evenings were:

- Practical Outdoor**—Maidstone, Canterbury, Christmas Lights and Matthews Riding School.
- Indoor Practical**—Portraiture, Table Top and Glamour.
- Presentations**—Basic Black & White processing, Photo-journalism by Helen Rogers of Ilford, Wildlife of Scotland by Ted and Glen Coleman and Production of an Audio Visual Sequence by Alan Rose.

The Club submitted entries for the following competitions:
 M.T.P.A. —Slide League (6 Rounds)
 M.T.P.A. —Annual Competitions (Black and White, Colour and Slide)
 K.C.P.A. —Slide Competition
 Rose Cup—Print Competition.

The Club also held 6 competitions of its own including the two themes—Sport and Transport.
 All competitions were well supported with no lack of entries. Looking forward to next season, which begins on September 3rd, the programme should be even better. Some new ideas will be:

A. "Ladies Evening"—A presentation by a female photographer of a well known national newspaper about her work in the media. She is one of only 6 women in the country who have the FBIPP.

B. Members Evening—An evening for members to discuss, share thoughts and problem-solve. Also, perhaps look constructively at the results of practical evening photography.

C. Andy Morant—A local freelance professional photographer will be coming along to discuss his work in general including child portraiture, weddings and birds of prey.

D. Rummage Sale—An evening to dispose of unwanted items.

The two projects for next year will be the continuation of the "Rochester Through The Lens" and "The Four Seasons." The two subjects for internal competitions will be Architecture and Portraiture.

If anyone would like details of next season's programme, or would like to find out more about joining the club then contact:

- Paul Nash—Chairman 3950 (CACD Production)
- Dave Warren—Secretary 3843 (ADD Software)
- Ken Billing—Treasurer 3743 (AS&RD Cost & Budget)
- Keith Andrews 3950 (CACD Production)
- Garry Owen 3812 (GSD Tech. Pubs.)



New facility Mother & Baby Classes

Mother & Baby Classes commence on Thursday 28th August at 5.00 p.m. at the Club Pool.
 Our experienced teacher will be Mrs. Denise Dutton. For teaching purposes we class a baby as a child under 5 years of age.
 A Parent **must** accompany the baby in the water.

FEES
 Annual Subscription £4.00 per family. Lesson fees £5.00 per child per course. Duration of course will be as long as it takes, or until the child has the ability to move into the Beginners 1 Class of the childrens lessons.
 Our fees are less than a quarter of those charged by local public pools. Contact Cyril Moffett, home Medway 48707 or Airport Works, Ext. 3926.

Adult Awards S.T.A. Adult Achievement Award

BRONZE STANDARD	SILVER STANDARD
Shirley Atkinson	Joe Prickett Alan Strike

S.T.A. Distance Badges

Name	Distance (Metres)
Alan Strike	100
Joe Prickett	100
Shirley Atkinson	50

A.S.A. Swimming Challenge Award

SILVER STANDARD		GOLD STANDARD	
Name	Age	Name	Age
Gavin Baran	9	Matthew Wilson	10
		Alexander Jibb	8

Get Well Soon

We all hope our coach Mr. Bill Ludgrove makes a speedy recovery to good health.

S.T.A. SURVIVAL AWARD

SILVER STANDARD		GOLD STANDARD	
Name	Age	Name	Age
Martyn Holt	11	Martyn Holt	11
Nicola Holt	13	Nicola Holt	13
Sarah Moffett	10	Sarah Moffett	10
Claire Philbrook	10	Claire Philbrook	10
Christopher Jibb	10	Christopher Jibb	10
Josephine Baran	11	Josephine Baran	11
		James Marshall	12
		Steven Marshall	11

R.L.S.S. ELEMENTARY AWARD

Name	Age
Richard Jibb	12

Gala Results Gravesend & Northfleet on 7th June, 1986

Although the 'C' team lost they acquitted themselves well as it was the first competitive swim for many of the swimmers, especially the girls.

200 Yard Freestyle Championship 19th June at the Club Pool

Boys		Girls	
1st R. Carpenter	2-23-71 mins.	1st N. Holt	2-54-30 mins.
2nd R. Tyler	2-29-82 mins.	2nd S. Hughes	2-59-31 mins.
3rd R. Jibb	2-31-09 mins.	3rd Z. McDonald	3-08-78 mins.

'B' Gala

on 28th at the Club Pool

GAV/BP Kent versus Black Lion & Rochester.
 A close result with Gold and Silver times achieved by our swimmers. At the half way stage we were leading, finally coming in 2nd to Black Lion.

Result	
1st Black Lion	87 points
2nd GAV/BP Kent	93 points
3rd Rochester	101 points

N.B. Lowest points wins.

1st Places gained by:	
Boys	Girls
M. Carpenter	R. Tyler
R. Johnson	C. Jibb
M. Holt	
R. Jibb	
N. Coppard	N. Holt

ASA Fish Badges

Name	Age	Distance Metres
Paul Pearce	10	1,500
Rebecca Harvey	8	400
Zoe Terry	11	200
Lisa Golding-Simpson	9	100
Ian Snelling	8	100
Tanya Nash	7	25
Christopher Phillips	8	10

A.S.A. Swimming Skills Award

GRADE 6		GRADE 3	
Name	Age	Name	Age
Sarah Moffett	10	Zoe Terry	11

Note: Grades start at 1 and go through to 6.

Adult Lessons

The next course of lessons start in October at the Club Pool.
Beginners: Monday 8.15 p.m. - 9.15 p.m.
Improvers: Monday 8.15 p.m. - 9.15 p.m.
Fees
 Annual Section Fee £4.00 per family.
Beginners: £5.00 for a course of 12 lessons.
Improvers: £3.00 for a course of 12 lessons.
 Vacancies are available on a first come-first served basis.
Contact: Cyril Moffett, Works Medway 44400 Ext. 3926, Home 48707.



CLUB-HOUSE ATTRACTIONS

MAY

DARTS EXHIBITION
with
CLIFF LAZARENKO
FRIDAY
16 May 1986
8 pm

Admission: £1-50
Ticket number entered
for Free Raffle

Tickets from BAR
and Indoor Games
Section Committee

DANCE
with
**"SOUNDS
VERSATILE"**

SATURDAY
17 May
7.30 - 11.30 pm
Admission Free

**MUSIC IN THE
BAR LOUNGE**
by
**"FRENCH KISSES"
DUO**

FRIDAY 23 MAY
8.15 pm

**Bank Holiday
Dance**
with
**"KINGS
RANSOM"**

SATURDAY 24 MAY
7.30 - 11.30 pm
Admission Free

**MUSIC IN THE
BAR LOUNGE**
by
**"THE
MINCHELLAS"**

FRIDAY 30 MAY
8 - 11 pm

DANCE
with
"PEBBLE MILL"

SATURDAY 31 MAY
7.30 - 11.30 pm
Admission Free

JUNE

NO EVENTS
**Friday 6,
Saturday 7
and Friday
13 June**

Ballroom
Closed for
Renovation
over period
2 - 14 June

DANCE
with
**"KING'S
RANSOM"**

SATURDAY
14 JUNE
7.30 - 11.30 pm
Admission Free

**MUSIC IN THE
BAR LOUNGE**
with
"CHASE"

FRIDAY 20 JUNE
8 - 11 pm

**Country & Western
Evening**
with
**"DRIFTWOOD
COUNTRY BAND"**

SATURDAY 21 JUNE
7.30 - 11.30 pm
Admission Free

**MUSIC IN THE
BAR LOUNGE**
by
**"EPISODE
TWO"**

FRIDAY 27 JUNE
8.15 pm

DANCE
with
"SPIRAL"

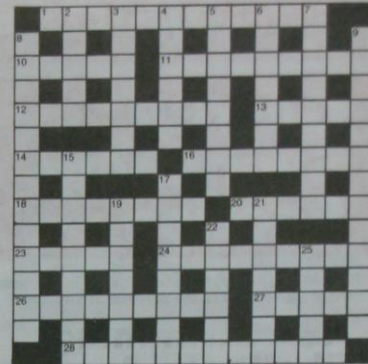
SATURDAY
28 JUNE
8 - 11 pm

JULY

**CHILDREN'S
DISCO**
"A + A"

FRIDAY 4 JULY
7 - 10 pm

Crossword No. 77 For amusement only



Across

- 1 and 10. What makes the day go well. (7-4-1-5)
11. Get out of the mess. (9)
12. Game dog. (9)
13. Lying quietly in wait. (5)
14. Caribbean island. (6)
16. Part of heavy petting. (8)
18. Perfection of model. (8)
20. Usually ends up as graffiti. (6)
23. A leak, not gushing. (5)
24. Group of Tsarist Russian revolutionaries. (9)
26. Where the toppers foregather. (6-3)
27. Go about stealthily in search of. (5)
28. Coleopterists' hall-mark of features. (6-6)

Down

2. Authoritative order. (5)
3. Gradually going off course. (7)
4. Faithfully adhere to. (6)
5. The gardener's summer friend. (5-3)
6. Turning of knobs, to tune in. (7)
7. Absence of pain. (9)
8. Regard for honour and interests. (6-2-5)
9. Sustained compunction, without let up. (13)
15. A God of evil. (9)
17. He crossed the Alps, elephant wise. (8)
19. Sometimes hobbies or sport. (7)
21. Joyful West Indian song. (6)
22. Angelic being. (6)
25. Public school in Bucks. (5)

Solution to Crossword No. 76

Across

1. Fruit machine. 10. Hotspur. 11. Bitter. 12. Ostrich. 13. Narrate. 14. Inset. 15. Automatic. 17. Goose step. 20. Recur. 22. Toe nail. 24. Essence. 25. Convict. 26. Rule out. 27. Converted try.

Down

2. Rotates. 3. Imprint. 4. March past. 5. Cabin. 6. Interim. 7. Elegant. 8. Shooting stick. 9. Under currents. 16. Top secret. 18. Oceanic. 19. Elation. 20. Rescued. 21. Contour. 23. Litre.

Last, but certainly not least, our

Congratulations

go to colleagues on the occasion of...

... an Engagement

... a Wedding

... and a Happy Event

Jennifer Thomas of ADD Progress, to John Heathfield who used to be with ATED as Service Engineer. Jenny's num works in ISD.

On Easter Sunday, at St. Thomas of Canterbury RC Church, Rainham, Gareth Jones and Rosaleen Halpin were married. Gareth has been with the company since 1975 when he joined as Electronic Technician Apprentice - he has been in ISD

Tech. Pubs. since 1978 and is now a Technical Author. He met Rosaleen at Christmas 3 years ago when she was over here on holiday from her home in Dublin, she moved to England last year.

News from Colin Matthews. Chief Buyer MASD, that his wife Dierdre had a son Blake Christopher on 27 February, in Maidstone Hospital. Blake is looking forward to MASD Superstars in 2017 AD!

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

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