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EFA NEWS

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MARCONI-ELLIOTT BOARD



Mr. J. E. Pateman



Dr. B. J. O'Kane

FOLLOWING closely on the appointment of Dr B. J. O'Kane and Mr J. E. Pateman, CBE, respectively as Chairman and Managing Director of Marconi-Elliott Avionic Systems Ltd, came the news that Mr Pateman has joined the board of the Canadian Marconi Company.

The Marconi-Elliott board is now as follows: Dr O'Kane, Chairman; Mr Pateman, Managing Director; Mr F. J. A. Mangeot, Financial Director; Mr W. H. Alexander and Mr P. F. Mariner, Executive Directors.



Pence in the Paypacket

THE canteens went decimal on D-day and the first decimal payday followed on February 19. But many other EFA financial activities had been parallel £sd and decimal or fully decimal for several months.

It was all part of an eighteen month programme which involved training sessions for several hundred people in the AS&RD school, modifying the EDP payroll computer program, modifying accounting machinery, phasing in new stationery where necessary, and changing over the many divisional and company invoicing, accounting, estimating and recording procedures.

The complicated pattern of actions was plotted in advance in a PERT critical path program by a committee headed by John Hall, Assistant Accountant. With him were David Perry, Staff Training Officer, Tony Clarkson, Budget Coordinator, Bob Howard (FCD), Brendan Balhetchett, Computer Manager, John Bradley, Personnel, Bill Ecob (AS&RD) and Charles Berry, Purchasing Coordinator (Materials). Specialist sub-committees looked after particular problems.

John Hall reports that everything went very smoothly, with few surprises and no serious problems.

Even when Ken Davies, Wages Supervisor, fell ill in January, Harry Bunyard was able to get the essential information from him in hospital and complete the wages conversion.

John Hall, Assistant Accountant who chaired the EFA decimalisation committee.

STEAMING TOMATO -The Winner

WELL, now we know we have at least ten readers! We had ten suggestions of names for the IND tie with the apple and integral signs.

It took the combined brains and advice and argument of IND and EFA News entire editorial staff to judge the best suggestion. Finally we settled on "Two snails househunting" submitted by Norman Hurst (FCD)

It is interesting that the majority of suggestions followed an animal theme and only one treated the apple as a fruit.

We liked the intellectuality of "The ghosts of Newton and Boyle leaving the bleeding heart of IND" but deprecated its lack of succinctness. "The dance of the glow-worms, by

pomace" sent us hurtling to the dictionary to discover that pomace is an apple drink, not a nickname. "Curved lightning" and "a red bubble car coming out of skid" were neatly technical. "Supersonic bloodstain" was slick, but gruesome.

The tie has been duly presented.



The last IND tie is presented to Norman Hurst (FCD) by Geoff Rands, competition judge. Lucy Jones, EFA News assistant editor, looks on approvingly.

Fishy Goings On.....

LATEST addition to the galaxy of Social Club activities is the Elliott Aquarists' Society, which counted 30 members at its first meeting late last month and expects to double that membership fairly quickly.

The aquarists' chairman Sid Andrews (ADD) and secretary Ernie Woods (ACD) and several other EFA people have been fish keeping enthusiasts for a long time, but they want to cater for the widest interests, from keeping exotic tropical fish in tanks to single gold-fish in a bowl. The main fish categories are salt water, tropical fresh water, and cold water indoor and outdoor. Growing water plants is also an aquarist activity.

Ernie Woods is inspection planner with ACD and keeps 10 or 12 tanks of fish at home, specialising at the moment in a large tropical fresh water category called Cichlids. He settled on this hobby last year when he rejoined Elliott after three years as an elec-

trical engineer officer in the Merchant Navy. He had spent 7½ years with Elliott before that.

If you are interested in joining the Aquarists' Society, contact Ernie Woods on internal 552.

Ode to good Ale.

ONCE upon a time, when called by nature to obtain refreshments, one could enter the local tavern, whereupon a busty maid would heave on a bilge pump and draw a pint of frothy elixir from the cavernous depths of her cellar.

Alas, no more; now, to the wail of some rasping pop song, a 34B pushes a button and with a hiss of escaping gas a trickle of beer, almost as flat as she is, exudes into your glass.

Search for the source of this foul liquid reveals a metal drum lying on the floor. Gone are the wooden casks hewn from English oak in which a sweet brew did gracefully ferment.

There is but one solution to this dilemma; join the Elliott Climbing Club and end it all. Should you survive, however, we make frequent trips to the Sheffield area where a good pint can still be had in the moorland pubs (in fact they never seem to close); or in the mountains of Wales where the streams run with 'Newcastle Brown' probably caused by the number of midland climbers who frequent the upper reaches.

Interested? phone Ray "O'Booze" Dennis (FARL) telephone Medway 44433 extension 32.

Athletics - next month

Elliott Athletic Club will be competing in the following events during the coming month:

March 6

Maidstone Police - cross country at Sutton Road, Maidstone

March 13

Tonbridge road race at Tonbridge

March 20

Cambridge road relay 6 x 3 miles at Bexley

March 27

Hastings 5 road race at Hastings

Details from Len Murphy, ADD, on Internal 361.

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Omgawd! It's automatic test, but not automatic delivery! How do we get these 59 parcels to St. Mawgan without the GPO?



I know! Send for Miss Mutton! Call Goods Inwards.



I knew we could do it! Project leading is easy when you know how. 39 gone, 20 to go.



58 out of 59 packages loaded! That's 98.2 percent success. By the way, that notice behind me belongs to Training Centre, not ATED.

John O'Groats to Land's End

... SERIOUSLY though, delivery of the second 770 Series automatic test installation for the RAF's Nimrods is an important achievement in ATE business. This is the most powerful test equipment now being built, and ATED is delivering SSEs at the rate of one every three weeks at the same time. Deliveries of the second batch of SSEs are running no less than two months early.

The hero of these light hearted pictures of the Nimrod ATE system being loaded is Chris Scott, the project leader. He had supervised the delivery and installation of the first system at Kinloss, not so far from John O'Groats. Now he is doing the same for St. Mawgan, not far from Land's End! His next assignment will be in Malta with the third system in May.

Chris has been with ATED (alias ATED, FSED, DADD) since 1960, in the days of Score, Mactest, the 701 automatic test programs, and the beginnings of Mermaid. In September 1964, he was on board the Bristol Freighter taking off with the 701 equipment for Sweden when the load slipped. He has been in the Nimrod program since the beginning.

Cartoons Wanted



Are you a budding cartoonist, secretly longing to see your creations in print? Here's your chance. When Les Porter left AS&RD, he took Avio Nick with him. If you think you can replace him, let Lucy Jones know on internal 347.

Mr Money Bags

Mr. E. S.G. Atkins has been appointed finance director of MUIRHEAD INCORPORATED. He was previously with Elliott Flight Automation.

This is how the Financial Times recorded the new appointment of Eric Atkins, EFA's former secretary and Group Controller.

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Flowmetering....



Jim Dear, Sales Manager of ISD, was in Germany on MRCA business when he became involved in the pre-Lent Fasching festivities. He was invited by Messerschmitt-Bolkow-Blohm, MRCA's German partner company, to their works fancy dress ball, which resulted in this dramatic shot of Jim doing some flow measurement.

A Lantern for the Duchess

AN early history of Elliott Brothers records that in 1816 William Elliott was commissioned to make "a large magic lantern" for Her Grace, The Duchess of Wellington. Evidently, this was regarded as a scientific activity then and the price was 34s! Even during the 1840s, after William's two sons had joined him and the business was expanding in the wake of the railways and the steam engine, Elliott was manufacturing "magnetic apparatus for amusing experiments" and "battery and squibs to fire and discharge cannon".

William Elliott, finding himself absorbed from the last two years of a seven-year apprenticeship by the death of his master, had set up his own company in 1800 to make drawing instruments.

He expanded his range of products steadily into telescopes, reading glasses, microscopes and barometers, which placed him ideally to satisfy the railway builders' urgent need for theodolites and surveying instruments from 1830 onwards.

Elliott also made scientific apparatus for famous scientists like Faraday and Sir Humphrey Davy and was awarded a bronze

medal for his exhibits in the Great Exhibition of 1851. In 1853 William Elliott died and his sons Charles and Frederick continued the business, using for the first time the Elliott Brothers name we still know today. They proceeded shortly afterwards to make their first take-over, instrument makers Watkins and Hill.

For a few years they occupied a factory at Charing Cross, but were forced to move by the building of the railway station.

It was soon after Frederick died in 1873 that the Elliott family ceased its connection with the company. Management passed to Mr Willoughby-Smith, who was well known for his work on the Trans-Atlantic and other telegraph cables. It was at about this time that Elliott made torpedo directors for the Admiralty and electrical standards for the British Association Standards Committee. The range of products was as wide then as it is today.

All this is recorded in the first issue of the Elliott Journal dated March 1951, which was shown to us by Ross Hawkey (CQD).

Tee + Sandwedges

THE Elliott Golf Society has had a very successful first year. Mr. Don Hunter (EFA Personnel Manager) was able to report at the first annual general meeting early in February that the outings and functions had been well supported by the 50 members.

The following committee was elected: A. J. Harrison (EFA) president; D. Hunter (EFA) chairman; J. France (ISD) vice-chairman; J. Hammond (ATED) secretary; R. Sawtell (ATED) treasurer; I. Gray (ISD) competitions secretary; A. Smith (FCD), R. Scriven (ATED), B. Barton (IND) and K. Trafford (EFA).

Two colour films were shown by courtesy of the House of Piccadilly, highlight of which was some remarkable putting by some of the world's leading golfers.

Mr. A. J. Harrison presented the two major awards played for during 1970. The Courage Challenge Trophy won at the Spring meeting went to John France and the Century Challenge Shield won at the Autumn meeting went to Irvin Gray. Both competitions had been played on the championship course at Princes Golf Club, Sandwich.

All the 1970 competitions were played to Stableford rules, a scoring system with points scored at each hole against par. With this system, a competitor can maintain interest in the competition even if he fails to hole out at one or more holes.

A full programme is planned for 1971, the first being to Herne Bay golf club on March 13. Entries please to Irvin Gray. A knock-out match play competition will be

run throughout the season for a new trophy to be presented by the club president. Entries for this competition to be submitted to Alan Smith.



Mr A. J. Harrison (EFA) with John France (ISD) winner of the Courage Challenge Trophy, and Irvin Gray (ISD) winner of the Challenge Century Shield for 1970.

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