



# EFA NEWS

No 26

August 1971

## The Gnomes of Airport Works

**N**OT many of us can look back on five companies formed and liquidated in as many years, with the bank account still in good shape. But that is what John Roche and Dennis Nightingale (Fisher) have been able to do with the Young Enterprise organisation in Chatham.

Designed to give young people and apprentices realistic experience in running commercial companies, Young Enterprise sets up a series of companies each year which do everything a real company does, from selling shares to manufacturing saleable products and preparing the report and accounts. Each of these companies is sponsored and advised by a Medway company, and that's where John and Dennis come in.

They have advised five successive companies since 1967 in all aspects of their operations. They feel they themselves have gained considerable experience, as well as helping the young managers to learn the ropes.

This year, the Elliott-sponsored company was called Ellioprise and decided to manufacture costume jewellery. The Postal strike cut them off from their suppliers, they had not diversified their production and they made a loss as a result.

*During the previous year, Primate made oven gloves; formica chopping boards; table-mat sets and various other kitchen aids. This Elliott-sponsored company not only paid the maximum permissible 10 percent dividend to its shareholders, namely 6d on each 5s share, but it paid a contribution to Young Enterprise funds. This was after paying normal corporation taxes and all other charges.*

Young Enterprise was started here in Chatham ten years ago and has spread all over the country. Basically it gives young people an introduction to business techniques, and it depends to a large extent on the advisers provided by sponsoring companies. But the advisers themselves seem to value the chance of seeing the little companies form and develop, acquiring management experience outside their professional one, and applying their own management ability to their advisory activity.

# Fete Day



For the 2nd time, Elaine Lee-Frost, (ISD), was selected Miss Elliott at the Elliott Fete held at Featherby Road sports ground on July 10.

Elaine who has been with the company for 4 years is a clerk in ISD production. Her hobbies include, modern dancing, reading and knitting.

Here she is with left, Barbara Hodges, (Gyro) and Caroline Cooke (FCD), who came 3rd and 2nd respectively.

Picture by Brian Abrey.

## BRAIN DRAIN

**A**FTER 20 years in the electronics industry, Peter Lowry, ADD's Marketing Manager, has gone back into the RAF as Squadron Leader Technical Officer.

There's room for a few more Elliott advisers who can devote an evening or two a month to next year's enterprise from September to June. Main experience needed is management, production and selling, but people may well be looking for a chance to exercise several different aspects of management. If you want to have a go, contact Ernie Free on internal 203.

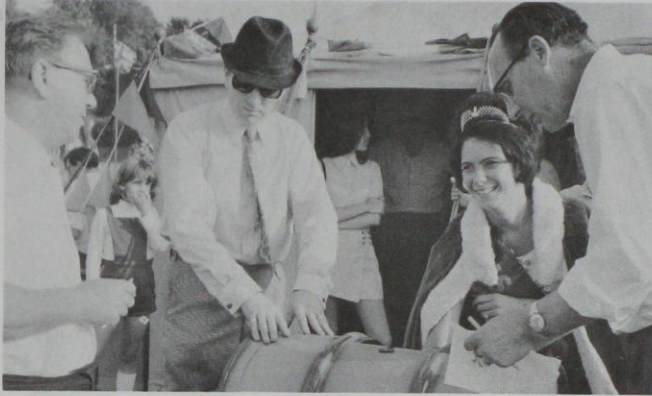
He joined Rank Cintel in 1951 "for a couple of years, to gain experience" he says. Fifteen years later he joined ADD at Lower Sydenham as chief engineer, after Elliott had acquired the Rank head-up display business.

So now it's a month at Henlow, six months at the RAF College, Cranwell, and then off into a new Service career. When next we see Peter, he might be a customer!

[www.rochesteravionicarchives.co.uk](http://www.rochesteravionicarchives.co.uk)

# Fete Day..

PICTURES by BRIAN ABREY.



There were 158 entrants from all parts of south-east England in the dog show and, the overall winner was this magnificent Alsatian. Jim Tonkin (FCD) was amongst the judges.

Miss Elliott's first official function was to draw the winners of the Majorca holiday — A. Secrett (AS & RD) and Mr. Welch (Fisher).



Winner of the bonny baby contest in the six to nine months age group was thought to be Nicola Howell. The judge was Mrs. Haskett, wife of EFA's Marketing Executive.



Everything is done by committee nowadays, they say. This meeting was to decide which way to turn during the sheep-dog demonstration. The decision makers had come all the way from North Wales.



We are told that these straining gentlemen were Elliott "odds and sods" team, but they all pulled together.



The tech pubs influence paid off for Alan Penney, when his son Michael, as the Green Cross Code, won the childrens fancy dress. Runners up were Tanya Hartnay, right, and Tracy Burgess, as a fox. Tanya's father is in FCD.

[www.rochesteravionicarchives.co.uk](http://www.rochesteravionicarchives.co.uk)

# People and their Hobbies

## Getting in the Picture

PLAYING guitar with a backing of his own multi-recordings at the Kent Show at Detling on July 17 was Peter Burt (FCD), who has become well known on the local musical scene.

When we asked him how he came to be doing this, he said that electric guitar first impressed him when the revolutionary multi-recordings of Les Paul and Mary Ford were released in the early 50's.

"During my school days" he says, "I was playing all kinds of music from the viola with the school orchestra to the banjo with the school jazz band. However it was the electric guitar that eventually won.

"My first 'gig' on this instrument was at the age of 17, for the princely fee of £1. Two years later, I did my first broadcasting on Radio Luxemburg with the Eddie Moors trio for *Accordian Time*. Before coming to Rochester, I spent a couple of years at Cranfield College where my loud banjo playing upset John Shepherd's (EFA) studies.

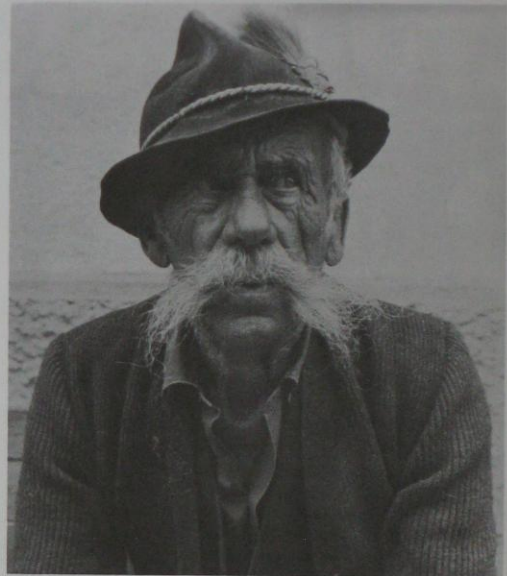
"After coming to the Medway area, I continued gigging with many local dance bands as well as running my own Hawaiian group for a while and regularly teaching the electric guitar. The exciting multirecorded sounds of Les Paul, and more recently of local man Wout Steenhuis, were still very much in my mind and I was very eager to have a go myself. I now regularly use the multirecordings technique, both to build up "backings" for my cabaret act and to produce complete multirecordings, some of which have been used by Radio Medway.

"Since Radio Medway has been on the air, many local musicians have had the opportunity of dabbling with broadcasting from both sides of the studio wall in the very pleasant informal atmosphere that its producers, especially Geoff Lennard, create. He invited me to multirecord the signature tune for his local amateur arts programme *Onset*, which ran weekly from January to June of this year. Also his weekly programme *Kent County Scene* has used many recordings by the "Colt 45" country and western group.

For some reason I found myself on bass-guitar for this recording session."

Peter thinks that the Rochester establishment is extremely well endowed with musicians of all kinds, many of whom have been fully professional for long periods. Bill Skinner, who runs the Elliott Musicians' Club, is always pleased to hear from musicians hiding away on the Rochester establishment.

Elliott Cameramen Excel.



Portrait by Percy Sears (ISD), which was awarded 3rd place in the Kent Messenger Cup Photographic competition.

THE Elliott Photographic Society Still Section very nearly swept the board when the Kent Messenger Cup photographic competition was judged in Chatham on July 8. Club members Ted Sponder, Percy Sears (ISD) and Gay Lancaster (Fisher Exports) won 2nd, 3rd and highly commended 4th places against opposition from many private entries and local firms' clubs.

*This competition formed a prelude to the open-air photographic exhibition run by Chatham Council from July 9 to 11 at Riverside, where the club was the largest single exhibitor amongst entries from the College of Design and many others.*

After many ups and downs, the society is a very active and flourishing organisation. During the summer months there have been several outdoor photographic trips including

a boat trip: a tour of Aylesford Priory is planned for August 4. In the winter season, meetings are held in Airport Works.

The club is anxious to contact any attractive young ladies who would like to be models at photographic sessions. Before the horse laughs break out, we must point out that ladies are encouraged to bring along their boyfriends, husband or parents: everyone is welcome. Models are always paid something for their trouble and members usually present prints to them afterwards.

*If you fancy yourself as a model, contact Jim Stevenson or Trevor Brise on Internal 332.*



## Athletics - next month

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

### August 7

Ron Argent Trophy at Dartford for boys, youths, juniors and seniors.

### August 21

3rd leg of the Kent League at Central Park, Dartford for boys, youths, juniors and seniors.

*Further details from Len Murphy, ADD, on Internal 361.*

# Its a Small World

COINCIDENCES? Mervyn Lea, Head of Central Quality Department's Electrical Standards Laboratory, isn't sure.

Every few years he takes a motoring holiday in the wilds of Scotland . . . A few summers ago, he had reached a remote spot in the Isle of Skye and pulled up near the only car in sight: a few seconds later a cheery greeting from the occupant . . . . Arthur Dennish of AS & RD.

This year, Mervyn went to Dunness, which is just about the farthest point, hotel-wise, in the North West of Scotland. On the first day, another visitor sat down at the adjoining table. It was Peter Roberts, late of ATED, who takes this spooky opportunity of greeting all his former colleagues. It's cheaper than a post-card, isn't it?



The seven-man crew consisted of standing left to right, Colin Attwood, Alan Stewart, (Cox), Derek Thorndick and Keith Harvey. Front row left to right, Ian Pett, Malcolm Crate and Jim Rawlinson. Picture by R. Smith.

## They Only Just .... Made It

### Our Elli Cat

*Briab.*



CONDUIT and adhesive tape are reported to have been primary structural materials of this year's Elliott raft pitted against nine others in the annual apprentices' raft race on July 10. The Elliott crew finished the five-mile course, which is good going, but were not highly placed.

Apprentices Wood and Sussmes report that: "The actual building of the Elliott raft began only five weeks before the race, and consisted of a mass of conduit, oil drums and adhesive tape.

"There were grave doubts whether the raft would be finished in time and whether indeed it would float. But the launching took place on the Monday before the race, leaving a bare five evenings for practice.

"The course was a total distance of five miles, starting at Blaw Knox slipway and then turning at the marker buoy past the M2 motorway bridge.

"The race started at 2.45 pm after the judges had inspected the raft. As the race progressed it became obvious that the Elliott raft would not win. And at the finish were last but one with the last raft being towed in. Both rafts were given rousing applause from the many spectators waiting at the finish.

"After the race all crews were welcomed with hot fish and chips and a cold glass of beer."

Published by Elliott Flight Automation Ltd. Printed by AS & RD - PL1484.

[www.rochesteravionicarchives.co.uk](http://www.rochesteravionicarchives.co.uk)