

Opportunity-Major Airline Donates Cup to Marconi-Elliott Flyers

The Marconi-Elliott Flying Training Scheme, which has been in existence since the late 1950s and reconstituted in 1970, has been honoured by being chosen as the recipient of a Trophy which is presented by British Caledonian Airways.

The Trophy, to be known as the British Caledonian Houston Cup, was presented to Mr. P.A. Hearne, Joint General Manager, Mr. Eric Taylor Company Chief Pilot, and Mr. John Campbell, on behalf of the Company and scheme, by Captain P.A. MacKenzie, Director of Flight Operations, British Caledonian Airways, accompanied by Mr. George Scowen, Sales Manager, S.E. England and Miss Rona Battye, Sales Representative, on Monday, 7 November 1977.

The cup will be awarded by the scheme committee to the Pilot judged to have made the most progress during the year. By presenting this cup, British Caledonian Airways is making an important contribution to Aviation in the Medway Towns and to the training needed to maintain the leadership the Company has won in the world avionics industry.

Members of the scheme receive basic flying training and as many members of the staff as possible are encouraged to participate. This provides the personal experience needed to tackle the problems which professional pilots have to contend with. The scheme

benefits from facilities offered by Headcorn Flying Training School which now operates at Rochester Airport, as well as at Headcorn.

Since the commencement of the scheme some 180 members of the Company have received training, of whom about 75 are currently active pilots. Among the active pilots, company General Managers, Senior Engineering Managers, as well as Engineers can be numbered.

The membership of the scheme is generally open to young engineers in their 2nd or 3rd year with the Company, who are usually trained over a period of two years to the standard required for a private pilot's licence. Opportunities also exist for continued training and of the 40 licensed pilots in the scheme, 11 now hold instrument ratings and night flying ratings.

Mr. Hearne, in accepting and thanking Capt. MacKenzie and British Caledonian for their generous gift, stated that the Company's desire to educate engineering staff in flying skills was well-known and enabled them to know at first hand "what goes on up there."

Such understanding can only mean a more positive approach to the production of necessary equipment and this gift, adding a spirit of competition, should enable the scheme and its members to make a real and effective contribution to the science of flying.

Visitors at Rochester

Air Chief Marshal Sir Douglas Lowe, KCB, DFC, AFC, Controller Air, and Mr. H. Pout, Deputy Controller Aircraft (D) MOD (PE), recently visited the Rochester works and were given an extended tour, covering the advanced avionics produced at the plant, such as processing and display systems for the Nimrod MR Mk. II, displays for USA-7 Corsair, F16 Fighter and Tornado aircraft, navigation and weapon aiming subsystems in service on RAF Jaguar aircraft. Flight controls for the Tornado and YC-14 STOL, and presentations on Air Data Systems and map displays.

They are shown here with Mr. C.J. Dear ISD Sales Manager and Mr. R.W. Howard, Joint General Manager, inspecting the new computerised automatic map reader which the Company has developed.

We have also had a visit from Air Marshal Sir Herbert Durkin KBE, CB, MA C Eng, RAF, Controller of Engineering and Supply (RAF), and Air Vice Marshal G.H. Ford, CB, RAF, Director General of Engineering and Supply Management (RAF). They were particularly interested in the Advanced inertial platform to be installed in Jaguar aircraft which is undergoing final testing in IND.



Our Man Down Under

Dear Folks,

I thought that if I wrote now you might just receive the letter before Christmas, however I may have underestimated the effects of the Sydney Postal strike, the Melbourne power workers' strike (just finished) or the train drivers' strike (just started).

First I must say how much I enjoyed the journey out here, especially the bit where Jenny and I carried three unliftable suitcases, five pieces of hand luggage, 2 children and a pushchair through Los Angeles customs at 4 a.m. (our time), fighting with 350 other people. Apparently writing Sydney on the baggage tags ensures that it all gets thrown off the plane at the first stop in the U.S. Honolulu was very impressive at 2.30 a.m. (their time), as far as I can remember the entire place consists of a terminal building, three shadows opposite the main entrance which could be mistaken for palm trees, and a drinking fountain, and oh yes, having gone outside for a breath of fresh air, we rapidly came back inside as it was cooler. Auckland New Zealand was duly reached 2 films and yet another breakfast later, and the place looks so much like England it isn't true, in fact it was a typical April shower day. Sydney is like most big cities, a mixture of very grotty and extremely pleasant, however, I think Bob's description (40,000sq miles of Chatham) is a bit unkind. The journey back home will certainly be a more leisurely affair than the one out here.

Work out here certainly seems strange without all the old faces about, but the fact that I am sitting fairly close to Colin Winrow and Alan Irvine, as well as the fact that everyone seems helpful and friendly, is making life

bearable. I have not plucked up sufficient courage to wear shorts (or my cork hat) to work, but it did reach 94° last week which was a bit much when you think it is not summer yet. I shared the office for a whole day with a huge blue dragon fly which found it too hot to do much flying, and I certainly didn't have the energy to kill it. Last Saturday we helped Colin commission his new bar-b-q in his back 'yard'. Alan arrived a little later than he was hoping, owing to an unfortunate incident with his boat, mind you, it was his own fault, the instructions for attaching the outboard motor did advise him to tie it to the boat with the rope provided, as well as screwing it on. Apparently a swift 180° manoeuvre to avoid a log was sufficient to send the motor to the bottom of the muddy, tidal lake. Alan was fairly lucky, it took only 2 days searching by a frogman to locate it—this weekend was spent raising and cleaning it.

The house hunting season started last week (on the glorious 18th), luckily it finished this week with us finding just the place we wanted—it is not as difficult as at Rochester but I think we have been a bit fortunate.

We've done quite a few of the tourist spots and the Opera House is very impressive, however Bondi Beach is easily the least attractive beach we've seen (only a little better than Southend); some of the other beaches really are fabulous. Some of the sights certainly would do Chris Scott no good at all with all the big.....

Sorry about not finishing properly but I have run out of time and paper for now.

All the best, Mike Rider MASD
What do other 'globe-trotters' think, especially any 'Aussie' friend who may be with us, and/or 'ex-Aussie'?

APPRENTICE ACTIVITY

The continuing success of the Elliott Apprentice Training Scheme brings opportunity to the following, who are to be transferred from a Technician Apprenticeship to take up a B.Sc. Degree Course, at Thames Polytechnic, commencing in January 1978.

Keith Aaron an old boy of Woodlands County Secondary School

Michael Fowler	"	Swadlands Secondary School
Michael Rowe	"	Oldborough Manor School
John Waterman	"	Maidstone School for Boys
Neil Watt	"	Oldborough Manor School

All five are members of the September 1975 intake to whom we offer sincere congratulations.

SAFETY AWARD

All employees in MEA can take pride in the Award to the Company by the Engineering Employers' Federation of a 'Golden Hand' Award for Safety. The award was handed over to Mr. H. Staff, Safety Officer, on behalf of the Company, at a luncheon in London on 1 November 1977.

The purpose of these awards is to give recognition to member companies who either meet or reduce the accident target rate set for each establishment, based on their average incidence rate for 3 consecutive years.

The categories of Award are:—

★★★ for establishments which equal or beat their target.

★★ for those which, while not meeting their targets, nevertheless achieve an incidence rate of 20 or less.

★ for others achieving 10% improvement over their average incidence rate for the three years.

To provide a continuity incentive, any establishment gaining a 3 Gold Star award will be eligible for a 'Golden Hand' award in subsequent years. The incidence rate is the number of reportable injuries per 100 employees.

AS & R Division are holding their ANNUAL XMAS BUFFET DANCE

at the Royal Star Hotel, Maidstone
Friday, 2 December 1977 at 8 p.m.
Dancing to Chris Allen Orchestra
and Ivan Jay Combo

Tickets £3 each

Contact Ron Masters Int. 201 Transport Arranged

This is us...

'Stop Press'—
'Hot News', please take note,
A great new era's dawning,
To the 'Mirror', 'Sun' and 'Telegraph',
We'd like to give fair warning.

With all these strikes and going slows
The news keeps getting scarcer,
Tell all your friends at MEA
We've got our own 'Rag' there Sir.

We want to cover everything
Births, Marriages and such,
We need your personal anecdotes
So come on, get in touch.

Perhaps you've just been knighted!
Or your Gran'ma broke her toe,
Anything exciting—pop round
and let us know.

Have you built an aeroplane
Or made your own T.V.?,
Perhaps you've been potholing
Or once got lost at sea.

You must have personalities
Somewhere in your Section
So let us know about them
and we'll head in their direction.

We want this publication
To be a personal thing
Our internal numbers 204
So how about a ring?

Contributed by Arthur Daniels ADD

Junior News

When completed, add your name, age and address and send to:—

The Editor, MEA News, Marconi-Elliott Avionics Limited, Airport Works, Rochester, Kent, so as to arrive not later than 3 January 1978

Last month's Junior Cross-word solution is:—

ACROSS
3 Gina, 5 Cop, 7 Taper, 10 Eton, 12 Reside.

DOWN
1 Letter, 2 Map, 4 Icen, 5 Nor, 8 Ate, 9 Pos, 11 He.

The Jumbled Words Competition correct solution is:—
(1) Cassette (2) Record (3) Algebra (4) Athletic (5) Geography.

The winner will be announced in the next issue.

Dear Juniors,

We have an exciting competition for you this month. It being Christmas time, which means party time, we thought you might like an opportunity to join in. Prizes will be awarded for the best entries submitted, as judged by the committee.

There will be 3 classes. (1) Ages up to 7. (2) Ages over 7 up to 12 and (3) over 12 years.

What you have to do, is colour the picture using any medium (remember water paints 'run'), judging will take note of neatness and choice of colours.



ANNIVERSARIES

We congratulate Eric J.C. Finch of ADD Stores, and Mrs. Greta G. Finch, a secretary in MEA Management, on the celebration of their Silver Wedding Anniversary on 29 November. A family party is planned for 3 December in the Bluebell Hill Village Hall.

Greta Finch, who began her career in Elliotts in 1964, moved through PTED, FSE, ADD and ATE Divisions until she became a confidential secretary in MEA Management in September 1972.

Eric Finch is a late-comer to Elliotts commencing in May 1976 serving in ADD Stores. Their daughter works within the Management team secretariat.

Our congratulations go out to Albert (Bert) Mulford and

Iris Mulford on the occasion of their Ruby (40th) Wedding Anniversary. Bert who is Assistant Chief Inspector, FCD, has been with the Company for 26½ years, and was married at the Vines Congregational Church to Iris Ede, by the Revd. Brackenbury on 11 December 1937.

David Golding draughtsman in MASD, attains his 21st birthday on 28 November 1977.

CONGRATULATIONS

Our congratulations go out to Michael (Puss) Pamble on his earth-shattering decision to take a whole 2 weeks' holiday, starting on 1 November.

Contrary to rumours, he is not about to give up work.

SHARING IS CARING...

Soon after the First World War—1914/1918—there was a popular song, which asked the question "What did you do, in the Great War Daddy?, what did you do?..." Now that there is so much more leisure time for everyone, we might up-date it and ask, "What do you do in your spare time, buddy?" One such answer is "help other people", there are so many ways in which one may serve one's fellows, but to help them in times of sickness or distress is, perhaps, of greater benefit. We give below a few details of how Jim Lakeland of FCD Methods Department tries to fill some of his out-of-work time.

Hospital Radio Maidstone presented its first programme on 15 April 1963 to patients at Oakwood Hospital. Since that initial one-hour tape recording the service has expanded considerably in size and in the range of programmes broadcast. Instead of recording a programme one week and replaying it the next via the internal radio system of the hospital, a system of land-lines connect a total of five hospitals to the central studios which have the capability of broadcasting live programmes non-stop to all who wish to listen in hospital. The hospitals in circuit at the moment are Oakwood Hospital, Linton Hospital, The County Ophthalmic and Aural Hospital, Preston Hall Hospital and the West Kent General Hospital.

A total of 21½ hours of programmes are broadcast each week of which twelve hours are needed to cope with the more than 300 requests and dedications received each week. These request shows are balanced by other programmes ranging from the Saturday Afternoon Sports Spectacular to serious classical music. Also included are a woman's magazine, local news programmes (partly provided by the Kent Association for the Blind, and partly by our own roving reporters), horoscopes, and programmes of all types of music from 78 r.p.m. to 45 r.p.m.

The studios are in one of the Gate Houses of Oakwood Hospital and are in fact a converted stable, the final evidence of which has only recently been removed. The building was provided by the hospital for our use and has proved an ideal location for our needs. There are two studios at present, with plans for a third live music and talk studio under consideration. The layout of these studios is in no way an amateur affair. Much thought and experimentation has resulted in an easy to use control console that enables one person to produce a professional sounding programme able to be used on B.B.C. local radio—and they are!

Programme preparation is done in a separate record library containing over 6000 records, a large number of which have been donated to the service, although it is obviously necessary to purchase an increasing number of new and replacement records each week. They do wear out you know!

The equipment and studios are maintained by the

members of the service and various fund-raising activities take place every year. One of these was a sponsored 100-hour broadcast over the Jubilee Bank Holiday Weekend which raised over £200. This money is being spent on new records, maintenance of the electrical equipment and the not inconsiderable expense of hiring G.P.O. landlines. We receive help from a lot of local businesses and indeed our first live outside broadcast took place as an all-day broadcast from the coffee bar of the A and N Department Store in Maidstone's Week Street. This was part of National Hospital Radio Week on 1 October and entailed setting up a complete studio in the Fashions Department of the store with the critical eye of the public watching our every move during the whole 8½ hour session. Fair makes one sweat to think of it!

Hospital Radio Maidstone is not recommended to anyone who merely wants to play at being a 'D.J.'. There is a strict programme schedule to be kept to, and as in any undertaking, you get out what you put into it. If you want a personal ego trip then talk to yourself in front of a mirror, but if you want the satisfaction of bringing the outside world a little closer to people who may be lonely, nervous or away from their friends and relations, then maybe Hospital Radio can use your talents. Remember there are some patients who have been in hospital for over 20 years, whose friends and relatives have passed away and THEY ARE LONELY.

Jim Lakeland joined Hospital Radio Maidstone in 1966 and until then 'out of sight' was 'out of mind'. Now after nine years of working as part of a team, there are no big fish in this pond. He looks back on it as a period of personal satisfaction doing something useful for the community in which he lives. He has, of course, to earn his daily bread during this time, as have all the other members of this little society. Jim is a Production Engineer with FCD and his friends and colleagues at H.R.M. vary in their jobs from Bank Clerks to Travel Agents. They have a number of students as members, inevitably there are professional radio engineers on the technical staff but surprisingly, for a hospital radio, there is only one nurse.

As a member of H.R.M. Jim has swept the floors, painted the walls, catalogued records, visited patients in hospital collecting requests, and produced his own programmes. He has also stood in the rain with a collecting tin, blown up balloons (and some equipment), played in a charity cricket match and helped to run a disco evening in order to raise money to keep the service going.

Jim's final word is "I like Hospital Radio!"

"Many hands make light work", says the old proverb and H.R.M. could do with many more willing helpers to lighten the load and increase its usefulness. If you feel you could help, contact Jim on int. 204.

MARRIAGES

1 October 1977

John Pedder to Nicola Lane, FARL, at Highfield Parish Church, Crawley.

15 October 1977

Graham Hawks, Gyro Division New Road, to Lynn Keen, secretary to the Contracts Manager, IND, at Holy Trinity Church, Twydale Green, Gillingham.



Graham and Lynn Hawks

Robb Petts, Cost and Budget Office, IND, to Sharon York, at Chatham Registry Office.



Rob and Sharon Petts

BIRTHS

Belated congratulations to the wife of Jim Williamson (FARL) who presented him with a daughter, as a New Year gift on 1 January 1977.

Linda and Brian Jones and their new addition to the family Richard Evan, born at All Saints Hospital on Thursday, 13 October. Richard weighed in at 7lbs 15ozs. Linda was secretary to Mr. J. Finch, Divisional Manager, IND.



Linda and Brian Jones — and Baby Richard

IN MEMORIAM

It is with a deep sense of loss, that we record the death in early October of Earle Palmer, Sales Manager FCD. Earle Palmer was a native of Canada, being born in Alberta in 1914. He was a member of the R.A.F., became a Pilot, and attained the rank of Group Captain. A man of many parts, he served for a period as Air Attache in Rome, and also held posts in Washington and East Africa.

His Elliott career began at Borehamwood, from where he transferred in 1961. For about 2 yrs he was the Elliott Management representative at Watton.

From Flight Trials Manager, he was appointed Sales Manager MACD, in July 1963, his speciality being Military Aircraft. He retained this position on the merger with TACD, to form FCD.

His personality and charm, as well as his knowledge and expertise, endeared him to all with whom he came in contact. He was a charming fellow, and "a fine person to work for and with", are typical epitaphs.

The illness which eventually took its toll was spread over a period of time, during which it was bravely borne and tenaciously fought.

It is with regret we record the passing of Charles F. Down, one time chargehand and Foreman of the Paint Shop. His death took place on 13 October after a lengthy illness. We extend our condolences to his widow and family. He was a man of firm conviction and a staunch and dedicated member of the Church of Latter Day Saints.

RETIREMENTS

'This is the end of an era', said Mr. J. Pateman, Managing Director, when he began his speech at the presentation ceremony to mark the retirement of **Jan Jablonski**, Consultant Engineer, in FARL boardroom, New Road, on Friday 21 October. The presentation of a set of photographs of aircraft - which carry equipment with which Jan had been associated - and a cheque, took place before a large number of friends, colleagues and staff.

Jan Jablonski is the son of a Polish Railway Official and was born in Poland, and decided early on to gain as wide an education as was possible. By sheer hard work and many sacrifices, he eventually made it, and worked his way through Warsaw University gaining his Doc. Eng. Degree. His parents died when he was a young man and he undertook the responsibilities as head of the family, 4 sisters and 2 brothers. He became a Lecturer and specialised in Maths, Physics and Electricity (theory and practice), because he saw the future lay in these directions. In 1939 when war came to Poland, he was called up and served in the Armed Forces against the invasion by Germany. As his country was overrun he escaped to France and joined the Polish Air Force which was being reformed, attached to the French Air Force. A fluent speaker in French as well as German and Russian, he became Aircrew Radio-Navigator in a mixed French-Polish crew.

On the collapse of France in May 1940, he was on the run again, and escaped through San de Luce to England. The Polish Airforce was now re-establishing itself in Britain, and he was accepted and sent to Benson Airfield, Oxon. After 5 weeks training he joined RAF Mixed Squadron, flying Fairy Battle and after many missions he eventually concentrated on Bombers.

After one sortie, he brought his craft home, with all his companions dead beside him - and only by using the oxygen bottles of his dead comrades was he himself able to survive. He crash landed at Kings Lynn, Norfolk, and when rescued it was thought he was dead. His first recollection of this was that as he opened his eyes he saw what he took to be a heavenly vision of an angel - it was a nurse in immaculate white!

At the invasion of Europe Jan, now a Signals Officer, was in the advance party of an RAF contingent and moved into Europe to prepare the communications system for the RAF squadrons. He remained in Europe - except for a short spell of leave, when he married his English sweetheart -



Our photograph by Alan Keats, shows Mr. J. Pateman handing over the aircraft photographs, with Mr. Alexander in the background, to the obvious delight of Mr. Jablonski.

until the end of the war, with the 2nd T.A.F., attaining the rank of Squadron Leader. For his service and exploits during 1939-1945 he has been decorated with the 'Cross of the Order Virtuti Militari' (the Polish equivalent of the V.C.) 'Cross of Valour' - with Three Bars (Polish equivalent of the British D.F.C.) and 4 British and 1 Polish service stars and decorations.

On demobilisation, he decided to settle in England and looked around for a job. This he found in Slough with Taylor Electrical Instruments and soon became their Chief Engineer. In 1952 he joined Elliotts, served in the new Aviation Division at Borehamwood on magnetic devices and process control, later coming to Rochester. As a Consultant Engineer, he has taken a part in the advances made in instrumentation and control of aircraft. His great love is gyros, but his wide knowledge and experience has been used in direct service in the old FID, FARL and AS & R divisions, and indeed in all divisions on special assignments.

Jan is a sincere and practising Catholic and has a deep rooted faith, which has given him great strength in times of stress, personal anxiety and difficulty. His family of 3 sons and 2 daughters, continue in the family tradition and are making their mark in the sciences both at home and abroad.

In retirement, he hopes to complete and publish a work he has been engaged in for some 20 years, provisionally titled 'Formation of the Solar System' and also to write a book on 'Matter and Life' which will express his view of creativity and no doubt, reflect his faith.

A relic of the past...

On 1 November 1920, Mr. W. Phillips, who was with Elliott Brothers (Lewisham) from 1893 to 1954, bought this slide rule.

In 1952, when Jan Jablonski joined the company, a deep and lasting friendship was established between them.

When in 1954 Mr. Phillips died, he had used the slide rule for the Company's business for 34 years and bequeathed it to his friend for use in the further progress of Elliotts. This Jan Jablonski has done ever since giving a total of 57 years in the Company's service.

The slide rule was presented by Mr. Jablonski on his retirement to be held by the Company as a 'relic' of past days.



Mr. J. Pateman, Managing Director, receiving the slide rule for preservation within this Company. Photo Alan Keats.

Archie Butler, who completed 30 years' service with the Company on 14 April 1977, has now retired. His entire service was spent as an Inspector in charge of the Standards Room, checking and maintaining the gauges and measuring instruments to ensure accuracy, being an essential part of the Central Quality Department. He started work inspecting jigs and gauges for BP Swift & Swallow in 1947, after service with Short Brothers at Seaplane Works from 1933-1947. He recalls the ups and downs of the Company at Rochester in the early days and relates that he was used as the messenger to carry notices which dismissed over 50 Inspectors in one day, which he terms 'disaster day'.

He looks forward to his retirement when he will be a free agent, to come and go just as he desires, but he will be able to give more attention to his wife, who has not enjoyed the best of health for some time. They have 1 son and 2 daughters, and 5 grandchildren, with one daughter still at home.

To mark his retirement he was presented with a cheque from his colleagues and friends, before a large crowd, by Mr. V.E. Spencer, Company Chief Inspector, on Friday 21 October.



Our photograph shows Archie flanked by Derrick Stollery on his right and an apprentice on his left, holding his scroll of signatures. Photo Sue Ruddlesden.

Following a life of thrills, adventure and concentrated work, it is good to be able to relax and just do what one feels ready to do and give enjoyment to one's living. 'Bob' Page, IN Platform Assembly, can do just that, as he retired on Friday, 7 October 1977 after 17 years with the Company, all of which were spent in this Division.

Bob - a former C.P.O. in the Royal Navy, which he entered as a 'Boy Entrant' - saw service around the world, and for exploits which he does not like discussing, was awarded the D.S.M. During the Dunkirk evacuation, he experienced being sunk - while ferrying men from the beaches to the ships lying off shore. During his service career, he carved a name for himself in the amateur boxing world, by becoming a Forces Lightweight Boxing Champion.

After leaving the service, he joined Ozonair Limited and stayed with them for 7 years before coming to Elliotts at the Airport.

As a token of esteem he was presented with a portable radio by Mr. D.H. Harries, Production Manager, in front of a large crowd of colleagues and friends. He looks forward to 'just enjoying' himself, amusing his 5 grandchildren, and with his wife hopes to beat the English winters by spending them in Spain.



Our photograph shows Mr. D.H. Harries congratulating Bob Page prior to handing over the portable radio. Photo Sue Ruddlesden.

Twenty-five years' service

Don Emmett, Assistant General Manager, is shown being congratulated by Mr. J. Pateman, during the recent ceremony when he was presented with his canteen of cutlery to



Photo by Sue Ruddlesden.

mark his 25 years' service. He began in 1952 as Control Engineer, Guided Weapons Division, and became Group Leader, Control Engineering Guided Weapons in 1953 and Chief Trials Engineer, Guided Weapons in 1956. In 1960 he joined MAC as Project Manager and was promoted in 1961 to Technical Manager, and later to Manager, Military

Autopilots. He was Divisional Manager of MAC from 1962 until 1967 when he became Assistant General Manager.

Francis C.R. Latter, a Personnel Officer, is shown receiving his award choice on completion of 25 years' service, from Mr. J. Bradley, Personnel Manager, surrounded by colleagues and personnel staff.



Photo by Alan Keats

New Entrants

We extend a sincere welcome to the following, who have joined MEA in the last few weeks, and hope that their stay with us will be long and mutually satisfactory.

ATE

Mr. E.T. Collins	Project Engineer
Mr. T.K. Basu	Senior Development Engineer
Mr. A.E. Darwin	Development Engineer
Mr. D. Patel	Development Engineer
Mr. J.G.A. Peck	Computer Programmer
Mr. S. Andrews	Fitter
Mr. J.E. Chlman	Labourer
Mr. D. Moore	Computer Programmer
Mr. D.R. Wood	Project Manager
Mr. S.A. Radley	Senior Technical Author
Mr. A.T. Cole	Computer Programmer

AS & R

Mr. A. Harvey	Editor
Mr. T.W. Ward	Labourer
Miss W.G. Hick	Trainee Tracer
Miss J.E. Fone	Library Clerk
Mrs. C.A. Liston	Cost Clerk

ADD

Mr. C. Embleton	Test
Miss J.E. O'Bray	Library Clerk
Miss K. Waterman	Office Machine Operator
Mr. M.D. Cole	Development Engineer
Mr. C.J. Frost	Technical Assistant

CMS

Mr. C.A.T. Laws	Mechanical Inspector
Mr. A.J. Caradine	S/S Operator
Mr. J.N. Herton	General Machinist
Mr. E.J. Taylor	Labourer

FARL

Mr. A.J. Milward	Development Engineer
Mr. R. James	Development Engineer
Miss E. Doe	Computer Programmer
Mr. A. Fordham	Development Engineer
Mr. J.R. Syska	Development Engineer
Mr. C.D. Blenkin	Development Engineer
Mr. B.C. Worthley	Development Engineer

FCD

Mr. R.D. Allum	Tester
Mr. T.D. Bean	Systems Engineer
Mr. C.C. Parry	Development Engineer

Mr. R.I. Bishop	Senior Systems Engineer
Mr. A.N. Long	Electrical Inspector
Mr. R.S. Lewis	Computer Programmer
Mr. S.J. Moreton	Production Clerk
Mr. A.S. Chew	Development Engineer
Mr. R. Patel	Development Engineer
Mr. R.R. Patel	Development Engineer
Mr. D. Stockbridge	Inspector
Miss G.V. Smith	Clerk Typist
Mr. C.D. Blenkin	Development Engineer
Mr. J.E. Goodhew	Tester
Mrs. P.G. Wood	Secretary

MASD

Miss N. Pathak	Computer Programmer
Mr. J. Pierson	System Engineer
Mr. D.J. Bishop	Technical Author
Mrs. G.F. Morris	Trainee Computer Programmer
Mr. J.A. Everett	O.A. Engineer

ISD

Mrs. S.A. McKay	Assembler
Mrs. C.A. Smith	Assembler
Mrs. L.M. Thompson	Assembler
Mr. W.A. Lowe	Development Engineer
Mr. P.M. Melnik	Development Engineer
Mr. A.D. Jarman	Model Shop Employee
Mr. R.W. Whiting	Development Engineer
Mr. H.R. Cox	Tester
Mr. V. Temple-Smith	Flight Trials Engineer
Miss D.A. Hales	Purchase Progress Clerk

PSD

Mr. S. O'Berry	Computer Programmer
Mr. C.D. Daniel	Development Engineer
Miss A.M. Flack	Junior Clerk

MEA

Mrs. J.A. Moss	Shorthand Typist
Mr. D.L. Donovan	Time Clerk

EDP

Mrs. J. Hills	Data Control Clerk
Mrs. C.S. Smith	Administrative Assistant

IND

Mr. R.C. Bestol	Tester
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Works Engineering Services

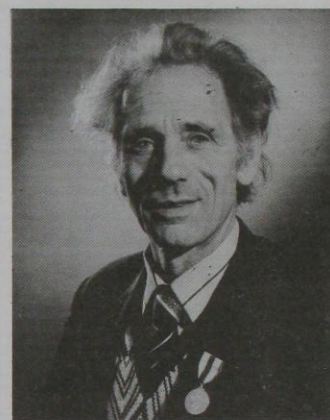
Mr. J.E. Balderston	Assistant Transport Officer
Mr. A.H. Cordier	Cleaner
Mr. E.G. Hall	Security Guard

Personnel Services

Mr. J.D. Ainley	Personnel Officer
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PERSONALITY PROFILE

As most people will be aware, **Gerald (Gerry) Paternoster**, Foreman of FCD Model Shop, was the recipient of the Queen's Silver Jubilee Medal, one of the few that came into Kent. A native of Hertfordshire, born at Elstree, his father was a member of the Film Industry, which in its early days had established itself in that part of the countryside.



Gerry Paternoster, wearing his Queen's Silver Jubilee Medal.

His engineering career began in 1939 at the Elstree Engineering Company, and he eventually joined Elliotts when they established themselves in the locality, where he worked on jig boring, using a Newall machine.

He is one of the remaining 3 of the original Concorde Team, and has many stories to tell of the anxieties, cares and thrills, which make up the pattern of many successful projects. He has watched and helped bring about developments which have transformed our units from very large, bulky items to small compact ones, and tells the story of how, when delivering one of the early large and heavy computers to the Imperial College of Science in London, the lift was out of order, and the delivery had to be made to the top floor, so a jaunt up the spiral staircase was necessary. Arriving at the Lab, exhausted and 'fit to drop', the unit was connected for a try-out which, because of some fault in the connections, would not work, so back down the stairs it had to come!! All this on a hot day in London!

A member of the Foreman's Association during its lifetime he is now the spokesman for the Foreman's Group.

He is looking forward to going to Australia at the end of the year to spend a holiday with members of his family, and will be taking his medal, to let the folks 'down under' have a sight of it.

THESE YOU HAVE KNOWN

When in 1972 Bob Black - Foreman of the Stove Enamelling Department (Paint Shop) - finally retired, a chapter in the history of Elliott Bros was closed.

Bob - the man everyone loved to hate - started his career with Short Bros, whose reputation for training was of the highest. Indeed, the traditions of the founding of the firm on the principle of "meticulous care and skill in manufacture", was by precept and example instilled into all those trained there. He worked on the first all metal plane, and spent a few days at Halton RAF Camp, before being returned home as unsuitable, due to an eye defect. Trained as a Coach Painter, he spent a number of years at Bedford, before returning to Rochester, to organize stove enamelling, on scales, slicers and cake mixers at Swift & Swallow. Those early days were full of excitement and trauma, and he recalls one Friday when the heads of the firm had to go out and sell two scales before any wages could be paid, and the time when, in one day, 58 Inspectors were discharged.

The advent of Elliott Bros began almost casually, but radical changes were on the way. Sheet metal work began again and the first sample valve from America arrived, which necessitated the formation of a separate painting unit. Developments in instrumentation, as the aviation work grew, all tended to change techniques, methods, and type of finishing.

Bob also developed an interest in things human, being an original member of the Apprentice Committee (his two sons were both apprentices at Elliotts - one is now with Lake & Elliotts, and the other is a member of GEC Elliott Control Valves Sales force) and until his retirement was actively concerned with the Foreman's Association, as Chairman and Vice President.

Bob is as lively as ever and to hear him talk of the old days is a tonic, even as he approaches his 72nd year. He is kept so busy looking after a beautiful garden with lawns and a fishpond - that he wonders now how he ever found the time to go to work! When asked if anything has changed he replied, "Yes, whereas I used to give orders, now I take them - from the wife." "Looking back, if you had your time over again, would you do anything different?" "No, I don't think so. I have so much to be thankful for, so many memories, friendships and happiness to look back on and share."

Bob was concerned to learn about everyone, and sends his regards to all, and should any one care to pay him a visit at Maidstone, they can be sure of a real welcome.

Appointments

The recently appointed Administration Officer of IND is **John Hicks** formerly in FCD Cost & Budget Departments. John has had an exciting career having been a member of the wartime RAF as a Wireless Operator in Lancasters. Fortunately he survived, and on returning to civilian life joined West Suffolk Police Force. The call of the air, however, was too strong and he rejoined the RAF in Air Traffic Control, which led him to spend 1 year enjoying the blissful life on the Indian Ocean island of Gan, which he describes as 'idyllic' with perpetual sunshine. His hobbies are cricket, reading, walking and travelling abroad.

Derrick Stolley, aged 25, has been appointed to succeed **Archie Butler** in charge of the Standards Room of CQD. Derrick is an ex-apprentice and is married with a 2½ year old son. One of the 1969 intake, he has 2 'O' levels in Maths and Art, and passed the Tech. C & G exam.

Mr. John W.C. Walliker has been promoted to Assistant Prod. Manager, ADD.

Mr. David Adams, previously Chief Buyer, is now Materials Controller, ADD.

Mr. George W. Greenfield has left IND planning and joined FCD Methods Department.

Mr. Vic Shelley transferred to FCD D.O. as Section Leader from IND.

INTERNAL VACANCIES

Anyone interested in the following Vacancies should apply in writing to Mr. J.D. Ainley, Personnel Officer as soon as possible.

ENGINEERING

ONE SENIOR MAINTAINABILITY ENGINEER in ISD
FIELD SERVICE ENGINEER (home or overseas) for ADD
PROJECT ENGINEER in AS & R
TEST PROGRAMMERS in ATE

PRODUCTION - VARIOUS DIVISIONS

TESTERS
INSPECTORS (Mech & Elec)
PRODUCTION ENGINEERS
DESIGN DRAUGHTSMEN
DETAIL
CHECKER
ILLUSTRATORS
EDITORS

CLERICAL & MISCELLANEOUS

INDUSTRIAL PHOTOGRAPHER (1)
CONFIDENTIAL SECRETARY - FCD CONTROLLER (1)
CLERK TYPISTS
PROGRESS CHASERS

Steve Jarrett, who worked in FCD Test, left the Company on 4 November to take up a position at Nuclear Power Constructors, Cleveland, Hartlepool, as a self-employed Electronics Engineer. He will maintain and service orbital welding units.

We recently said farewell to **Tony Podesta**, who worked in the Gyro Model Shop, on his decision to try his luck in the sun by going to work in Saudi Arabia.

AROUND THE DIVISIONS

FARL - Divisional Manager, Mr. R. Collinson

A sincere welcome to the Division and to the Company is extended to the following who have recently entered into service:-

Dr. Chris Cook - who comes all the way from Northern Australia (sorry we cannot organize more sunshine).
Dr. Dave Martin on transfer from Hirst Research Centre,
Mike Everard, Tony Aylward, Bill Mead, Robert James, John Apin, Steve Rainsbury, Derek Comfort, Dan Tannenbaum, Elizabeth Doe.

pastures new...

Dave Farrow, formerly in AEI and later in FCD Contracts, recently left the Company to become 'mine host' of 'The Angel' in Lower Rainham Road.

Formerly a member of Fuse Division and then on the staff of FCD Contracts, **Ron Staines** of 'Band' fame, has left to take over as proprietor of 'Walling Hardware' in Gillingham.

WELL DONE FCD!

We take pride in reproducing an extract from a letter recently received from Boeing Aerospace:

We would also like to take this opportunity to thank all those at MEA who worked on the F.C.E., for your outstanding support during the YC-14 program."

K.L. Jorgenson - Buyer

www.rochesteravionicarchives.co.uk

SUPERMAN—who can beat him?

So many people 'hide their light under a bushel' and when it is revealed, we find a wealth of talent and ability which we never knew existed.

Our subject for this month's revelation is none other than A.R. (Bert) Kennet—a member of MEA Production Team, previously in Fuse Division, and Chief Planning, Estimating and Ratefixing Engineer in CMS.

An 'Old Williamsonian',—he took part in all the traditional sports: cricket, rugby, hockey and swimming. During these days of learning and playing he became interested in roller skating and was invited to join Shorts Skating Club as an Honorary Member, until the club had to amalgamate with another group and become known as Rochester United. This activity was very successful for he was Club Speed Champion for several years, and took part in British Championship events over ½ mile and 5 miles. His trophy case gives tangible evidence of the many successes as a 'Speed Merchant on Wheels'. During this period he became the runner-up in the Southern Counties Championship and third in the British Championship.

ROLLER HOCKEY

However, to keep at the top demanded stringent training schedules, so Bert withdrew to take up a less demanding sport—roller hockey!! He became a player member of Rochester United Roller Hockey Team which has won the National Championships twice in addition to being successful in Switzerland, France and Belgium.

But success did not come easily, for there were times when no rink was available in Medway Towns, so he migrated to Southgate and Alexandra Palace (north London clubs), as a guest player again receiving honours by selection for the London and Middlesex County Teams. This phase is still not finished and we learn that the present position of the team in the Kent League should result in further trophies this season.

In addition to playing, he also devotes himself to Administration and is Chairman of Rochester United Roller Skating Club, and Manager of the Casino Sports Association (The Lessees of the Casino Sports Hall, in Maidstone Road, Chatham) which is a non-profit making organization providing facilities for roller skating, five-a-side football, netball, badminton, indoor cricket and karate.



Rising over the waves, Bert Kennet and navigator travelling at 40 mph.

Percy's 'corner shop'

When one's family has grown up, married and moved on, what does one do to fill the void?, especially as regards the lady of the house.

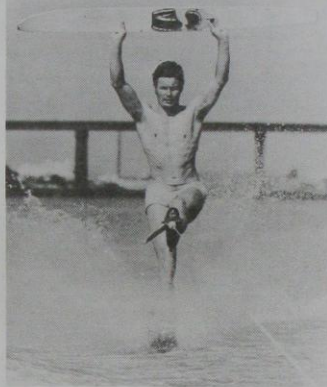
Percy Newman, in the Quality Assurance Department of ISD, considered this problem and decided to launch into business with his wife by purchasing a Confectionery/Tobacconist in Rochester High Street, near the Star Hill roundabout.

The present result is a remarkable testimony to hard work and devotion. Percy, in recalling the early days, says had they known what would be required of them for the first year or two, they could have thought twice about embarking on this venture.

From Confectionery and Tobacco with one assistant helping his wife, the business has added toys, fancy goods, stationery, some groceries, and chemist sundries to the range, while the staff has increased to two full-time and one part-time assistant in addition to his wife—Percy being the 'back stage' hand.

WATER SKI-ING

Since skating is mainly a winter pastime, in summer his skills are applied to power boats and water ski-ing. He has twice been Vice-Commodore of the Kent Boat and Ski Club, and is also a member of All Hallows Yacht Club, where he has qualified for his power boat driver's licence and has added 'pots' for driving and navigating in Class 4 Offshore National Championship races, including the Putney to Calais run. Bert has even done better than King John did, by actually ski-ing across the Wash, and he has also crossed the Bristol Channel.



Bert Kennet in typical pose water ski-ing near Rochester Bridge.

BOWLING AND FOOTBALL

Not entirely a 'speed king' more gentler pursuits have claimed his attention from time to time. Whilst it was operating, he played regularly in the Company's Ten Pin Bowling Team. The Inter-Divisional Football tournament also enticed him to play, but after playing for the first half, and scoring, he retired at half-time with blistered feet!

LEADER OF THE BAND

Bert has not just devoted himself to sporting activity but has tackled more sober things as well. He joined the Royal Engineer Cadet Band, moving up from cymbal basher, bugler, base drummer, and solo-side drummer to the supreme accolade of Cadet-Drum Major (how did he throw that mace?). When the band was selected to take part in the Victory Parade of Auxiliary Forces, in Hyde Park, at the close of hostilities, the whole parade was led by Cadet Drum Major, A.R. Kennet with his chums behind him.

In spite of all these encounters he had to set to work, and took a Dockyard Apprenticeship, and still forging ahead in his chosen profession of Engineering, he rose to become a Foreman and an Approved Inspector, leaving to join Elliotts in February 1960.

This Jubilee year holds special jubilation for him, as he celebrates both his Silver Wedding and his 50th birthday. His wife (tolerant and understanding soul) and 3-year-old daughter make up the family, to whom he returns when work and sport permit!

hobbies

A hobby of unusual interest—Alpine Gardening—is carried out by Jim Hamblett, Project Controller in ADD Engineering. The object of this type of gardening is to succeed in growing plants from the mountainous regions of the world where conditions are usually harsh and cold, against the challenge created by the climate of this country. Alpines are generally accepted as being plants which grow above the tree-line in mountainous areas—although such plants can also be found at sea level in the Arctic regions. The advantages of Alpine Gardening, claims Jim, is that it is ideal for the very small garden as well as being the basis of a rock-garden for the larger areas.



An ANDROSACE PYRENAICA grown by Jim Hamblett, in a 7" diameter shallow tray, and producing over 2000 blooms.

In a garden 10' x 20', Jim proves his point by cultivating no less than 2000-3000 plants each year, with a heavy loss rate due to damp and other causes. His specialities are dwarf conifers and rhododendrons which are often included as exhibits at local and national shows with great success.

In order to preserve species in the wild, as well as conserve them by cultivation, the Alpine Garden Society was established in 1930 to encourage enthusiasts. Today the Society is worldwide and the local group, of which Jim is Hon. Secretary, meets in Bluebell Hill Village Hall at 8.00 p.m. on the first Thursday in each month, from September to June. Talks and discussions take place on all matters related to cultivating and preserving the various species, and plants and seeds are exchanged.



Jim Hamblett

Anyone interested, please contact Jim on the Top Floor, Tower 3, Int. 595.

some more visitors

Four Jaguar pilots of No. 17 Squadron, RAF Bruggen, visited the works on Tuesday, 1 November. Sqdn. Ldr. Martin Abbott, Flt. Lt. Dave Needham, Flg. Off. John Skinner and Flg. Off. Alan Proctor had flown an exercise from RAF Bruggen the day before. They landed at RAF Manston where they spent an hour showing members of IN Division over the aircraft. A number of those luckier and more agile were allowed to sit in the cockpit to get a better idea of what it must be like to fly the Jaguar aircraft. On the Tuesday morning the quartet started with a tour of IN Division, including the production area, RST and SIT and then were given an introduction to Airborne Display Division's head up displays and helmet sights. The pilots returned to Manston after lunch and took time to fly over the factory prior to flying an exercise en-route back to Bruggen.

Sports and social club round up

GOLF—Chairman, John France Q.A.M., ISD

The Elliott Golf Society, which began life in 1969, is a flourishing section with some 80 members. The season, now ending, has been well supported in all types of events, with five full day outings and all-day matches against other parts of the Company and some evening games against local firms' teams.

The longest standing fixture is against ECV of Cowdenbeath (always played in Scotland) which was resoundingly won by MEA in 1977, reversing the usual trend. A Tri-Site Match, with MEA Basildon and Borehamwood as opponents, also resulted in victory, and the same result was registered in the match against MSDS Frimley.

The Society also organizes a knock-out competition and an inter-divisional competition, which this year was won by IND. The 1977 Knock-Out Competition resulted in Alan Gillett taking the Club Singles Championship, with Des Richardson as runner-up. In the Doubles Championship, Viv Young and John France took the honours, with Alan Gillett and Alan Chalmers being runners-up.

Concessionary rates are offered to members of West Malling Golf Club.

The presentation of awards was made at the Annual Dance and Prize-giving held on 3 November at the Social Club. During the evening, Joe Hilderbrands received a presentation, on retiring after 7 years as Match Secretary.

TUG-O-WAR

One section of the Sports & Social Club which has got into the stagnation zone, is the Tug-O-War.

Ted Herbert of IND, the leader of this section, explains that it is inoperative as a unit at the present time due to lack of members and he appeals to all able-bodied, fit and interested persons to contact him, with a view to reorganizing the section and making it into an effective unit.

At present it functions only as the organizer of the Tug-O-War contests which take place at the Annual Fete, when teams compete for the Elliott Challenge Cup and Challenge Shield. For any would-be members the cost of gear is minimal—a pair of boots (ex army?), and a pair of shorts. Football-type shirts are provided from Club funds, so come on in and 'pull your weight'.

Ted can be contacted on Int. 243

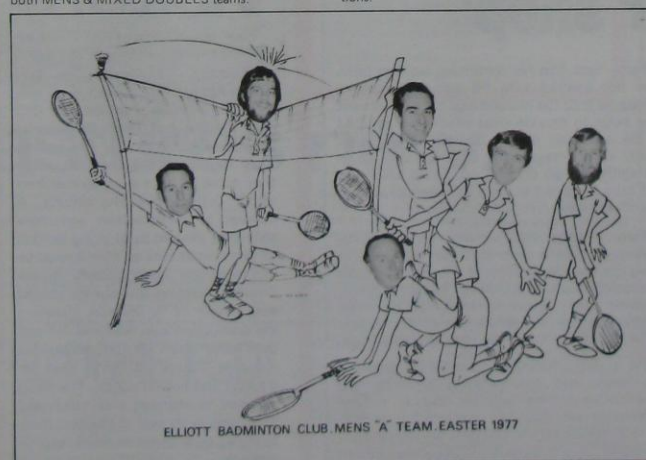
INDOOR BOWLING

IN Division are currently running a Divisional Bowling League comprising six teams. These matches are held at the Indoor Bowling Rink, Riverside, Chatham where equipment can be hired for approximately 50p per contestant. With sufficient interest the Divisional League could be developed into a Company League.

BADMINTON

A comparatively new section, being formed only 5 years ago, the Badminton Club has enjoyed success for each of its competitive years.

Members of the Rainham and District Badminton League, they have progressed to Division 2 in which they are playing during the current season, fielding both MENS & MIXED DOUBLES teams.



Our illustration shows the winning men's team for Easter 1977.

CRICKET

The end of 1977 season has been celebrated by the Annual Dinner and Presentation organized by Ashley Price of AS & R.

Brian Luckhurst of Kent and England was the guest of honour, and ably presented the prizes and awards to:—

Batsman of the year

Gerwyn Powell (Associate)

Bowler of the year

Ashley Price (AS & R)

Single wicket winner

Terry Crickmore (AS & R)

Player of the year

Brian Harrison (AS & R)

Points pool winners:—

David Hayward (Associate)

Gerwyn Powell (Associate)

Martin South (Associate)

Terry Crickmore (AS & R)

Geoff Blackman (Associate)

Special presentations were made to:—
Christine Crickmore—Catering Officer
Peter Blake (IND)—Scorer

So closed a memorable season, which covered the playing of 30 matches of which 18 were won, 11 lost, and only 1 game drawn. It is worthy to note that 4 of the games were won or lost in the last over of the match, with one game at Canterbury being won with just one ball remaining!!

ATHLETICS

The Senior inter-club match held on 29 October at Aylesford, gave Elliott-Reed A.C. pride of place in the team placings, with 56 points. Invicta were 2nd with 90 points, and Medway A.C. 3rd with 102 points.

The first man home was P. Brenchley of Invicta, while Richard Clark in 5th place was the leading Elliott-Reed man, closely followed by Arthur Champ and John MacMahon, in 7th and 8th places respectively.

In the Youth match, on the same day, Elliott-Reed's first man home was K. Robinson who took 3rd place in 17'47" and P. Ides was 4th in 17'59". The Dartford team were the team winners, and individual winner.

Due to lack of space we are unable to include the Athletic Club's fixture list. For information, please contact Len Murphy on Int. 641.

Camera Club—Meetings at 7.45p.m. in Committee Room, Tower 1

7 December

14 December

4 January 1978

11 January

18 January

25 January

Film Evening

Christmas Mural

Lecture—'Photography as an art form' by Mr. G. Lancaster

Sound-Sync—Meeting 1

General evening

Sound-Sync—Meeting 2

Elliott Social Club

Children's Parties 1977

In Works Canteen. 1st Party 26 November 1977
2nd Party 3 December 1977

1st Party Green Tickets—Boys Yellow Tickets—Girls.
2nd Party Blue Tickets—Boys Pink Tickets—Girls.

(Pantomime 'Aladdin' and Pop Group 'Dino').
For Children not attending the parties, distribution of toys will be made in the Main Canteen as follows:—
Monday 5 and Tuesday 6 December—12.15 to 1.20p.m.

Christmas Carols in Canteen
Wednesday 14 December 1977.
Carols by the Choir of Holy Trinity, Twydale, Gillingham
During Lunch 12.00 noon till 1.30p.m.

M.A.S.D. Social Club CHRISTMAS DINNER DANCE

Corn Exchange

Rochester

Dance Tickets only available £1 each

Contact Rod Cole (Int. 552)

Thursday, 11 May 1978. 4 Nights in Jersey
A few places available—Early application to Rod Cole (Int. 552)

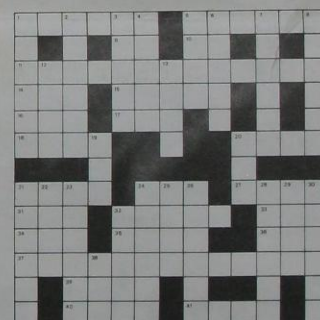
Royal Aeronautical Society, Medway Branch.

Forthcoming Meetings—Elliott Canteen
7 December 1977. 'The Grumman F14 Tomcat' by Dr. R.L. Caporali

18 January 1978. 'Gliding' by F. Irving
Further details of the R.Ae.S. (Medway Branch) will appear in future issues.

CROSSWORD No. 2.

Compiled by Jay Gee



ACROSS

1. Last new item (6)
5. For cutting gears (6)
9. Are you? (2)
10. Sovereign (2)
11. Between two continents (13)
14. It is (3)
15. Take over (5)
16. Woman's name (3)
17. Before (3)
18. Putting your trust (4)
20. Hot (4)
21. Plug up (4)
24. Make offer (3)
27. Pencil or paint (4)
31. Drink (3)
32. All-seeing eye (5)
33. Existing (3)
34. Water in mass (3)
35. Fruit (long) (4)
36. Water area (3)
37. From typewriter (13)
39. Sword (4)
40. Sleep or recline (4)
41. To wind on (4)

DOWN

1. Small talk (6)
2. Small animal (6)
3. Girl's name (5)
4. Business (5)
5. Assistance (4)
6. Speak out (5)
7. Dairy product (6)
8. Note of or achievement (6)
12. Rivet chopped off (4)
13. Part of foot (4)
19. Animal (3)
20. Conjunction (3)
21. Fortress home (6)
22. Appertaining to all (4)
23. Dear is a noted one (6)
24. And Browning? (6)
25. Thought (4)
26. Over smart (6)
28. Imp (6)
29. Between points (4)
30. Parts of Kent & Sussex (6)
32. In a temper (5)
38. Hope not started (3)

FOR AMUSEMENT ONLY

Solution to crossword No. 1

ACROSS

1. Interrogations. 10. No. 11 or. 12 in. 13 OY. 14 VC. 15 Baron. 17 et. 18 BC. 19 Sup. 21 Eiv. 23 Erode. 26 Tri. 27 Creal. 28 Atom. 29 in. 30 Pans. 31 G.A. 32 Avail. 33 CRT. 34 Aie. 36 Tee. 37 Run. 38 Maser. 40 In. 42 Pet. 43 Via. 45 Oosterbeek. 50 NTU. 52 Mal. 53 Si. 54 Sentimentality

DOWN

1. Investigations. 2. Nocturnal. 3. Even. 4. Robber. 5. Oracle. 6. Times. 7 in. 8 No. 9 Systemase. 16 Protect. 20 Pi. 22 Yell. 24 Rap. 26 Gun. 28 Revue. 29 E.R. 38 Mable. 39 Aie. 41 Nole. 42 Fern. 43 VE. 44 Ally. 46 Sun. 47 EMI. 48 Est. 49 Kie

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