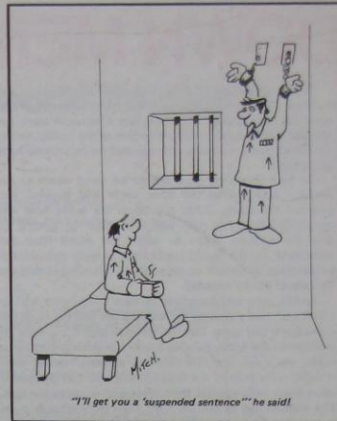


MOTTO FOR THE MONTH

"The man who likes his job, is never a slave to his work."



Marconi Avionics takes newly-won electronic systems business to the South West

Marconi Avionics Limited is to establish at Nailsea, near Bristol, electronic systems work which will extend into a new and growing field for the Company: control systems for the offshore oil industry. Multi-million pound business has recently been won, in which 'fail safe' electronic systems for subsea well controls and telemetry stations, will be supplied for BP's important new Magnus Field development. The electronics and systems technologies involved are closely related to the Company's avionics activities, which cover virtually every kind of aviation application.

To begin with, Marconi Avionics is seeking to employ at Nailsea mainly qualified electronics engineers, computer programmers and drawing office staff. They will quickly pave the way for people of other disciplines to join the team, as it becomes established. The recently-appointed Manager of the Nailsea operation, Chris Frost, 43, is now in

the Bristol area to interview new members of his team and discuss job opportunities with them.

The team is initially to occupy a 10,000 ft² modern office building, adjacent to the five acre site of a former cider works. Agreement has been reached for the purchase of this site and, as the operation expands, the cider works is to be demolished, to make way for an attractive new plant.

Chris Frost, who has been with the Company for 21 years, was formerly Divisional Manager of Instrument Systems Division, Rochester. During the past two years he has led the development of new ultra-reliable electronics systems for the remote control of subsea oil wells, incorporating 'spin off' from aviation technology.

The Marconi Avionics team at Nailsea is to develop further the Company's involvement in offshore energy production by applying its experience in advanced electronic systems to subsea well control, telemetry and

unmanned submersibles. Among the techniques which 'read across' from aviation electronics, are the application of fail-safe principles (as used in Concorde's automatic landing system, for example), new forms of data transmission system, microprocessors and control and display panels. The oil industry's demand for such technology is growing, as operations extend into increasingly difficult offshore areas.

The team will also carry out work in aviation electronics for a variety of aircraft.

The long term career opportunities which this provides are primarily in the specification, design, development, production and support of such systems. As the Nailsea operation becomes established, the team is to be complemented, in the usual way, by specialists in manufacturing, commerce, administration and marketing.

We are 2 years old

With this issue, we celebrate our second anniversary of publication, and except for the unfortunate break causing the cancellation of May and June issues of 1979, we have been running continuously.

It is our hope that we have fulfilled a need, and are encouraged by the expressions of goodwill and compliments which come from time to time.

However, we have not yet fully attained the goal we set out to achieve. A greater participation by all sections of employees is needed. We would welcome any contribution, however small, from anyone who has something to say, to share or to give, for the information, interest, amusement or concern of our fellow employees.

To all secretaries of the various sections of the Sports Club, please let us know of your activities, whether winning trophies or not, together with your programmes - who knows, you may get additional members as a result. It is worth a try, and helps to keep us all in 'the picture.'

Let us all determine to make MAV News a paper we can enjoy, use and help to produce. Suggestions for items are always sought - so let us get together.

FOR YOUR DIARY

Christmas 1979

Carol Service

in Rochester Cathedral, Wednesday, 19 December 7.30 pm

All employees and their families together with friends are invited.

Further details in due course.

Applications are invited for the

Third Annual Award of the

HASKETT TROPHY FOR ENGINEERING

which is judged for the best engineering achievement of the year that is likely to lead to an improved product.

A trophy engraved with the names of the winners will be displayed in the Main Foyer with a miniature souvenir trophy for the winner of the year.

In addition, the Company will donate a gift to be chosen by the winners to the value of £200.

The competition is open to all Engineers employed by Marconi Avionics Limited at Rochester up to and including Project Leader or equivalent grade. It is open to individual entry or team entry.

The applications will be judged by a panel of five Engineers from within and outside the Company. Innovation, effort, and cost effectiveness will be taken into account.

A written paper must be submitted to support the entry (six copies will be required for review by the panel).

Further information about the competition may be obtained from J.M. Neate, Personnel Department. Entries should be made in the first instance through the Technical Manager or Chief Engineer of the appropriate Division and should reach the Personnel Department by 29 October 1979. However, a brief synopsis of proposed entries should be submitted by 30 September.

www.rochesteravionicarchives.co.uk

DOWN MEMORY LANE

It had to be one of those days when one is young and carefree. The weather was good and the time at school had gone far too quickly. Yet there was a bonus in store, for the pair of boats, manned by members of the family, was at the wharf being unloaded and reloaded for its journey back to London.

As was the habit, after school we raced down to the wharves and greeted the aunt, uncle and cousins, and boarded the boats. After the 'chat' the butty boat was transferred from one dock-side to another for loading up and the workers began to wheel the goods from the warehouse to the boat. Uncle kept a wary eye on the proceedings, to ensure an even balanced loading so that the trip would not be impeded.

Auntie, who was conscious of 'cleanliness being next to Godliness', had a passion for keeping the paintwork of the boats spick and span. She had decided that it was time to wash down the cabin, running blocks (for guiding the towing rope), water can and fore-end; and enlisted—rather commanded—the help of the land lubbers who had descended upon them, who applied themselves with gusto to the task. The method was to pull up 'turf' from the yard soak them in water and 'scrub' the paintwork. Then with the 'mop' the whole boat would be swabbed until it shone as new. For this task, a special gift of a few pence as pocket money was the reward, which made us feel rich for a short while.

After the loading and paperwork had been completed and the sheeting up done, the boats were ready to start on the journey, and an early evening start would ensure getting through the first two banks of locks and through the tunnel before it got dark. The payment to the boat people was based on tonnage carried against the time taken for the journey. A good load and a quick time would ensure the highest payment. So we got under way

and the thrill of riding on the steamboat (hauling the butty) at least to the locks was to be experienced.

Standing on the platform of the stern, it was a matter of avoiding getting in the way, as the helm was pushed hard over, to bring the boats out into mid-stream and then through the bridge and the right-hand turn into the main canal way.

Then it happened, in trying to get a secure place on the stern for the journey up to the lock, a distance of about two miles, in trying to walk along the gunwale a boy slipped and fell into the water. As the boat was turning through the bridge, the 'man overboard' was not noticed for a few seconds, then panic stations. Engines were stopped, the tow rope cast off, and all hands were called to look for the 'body'. It was realized that the fallen boy could not swim and the swimming members of the family were preparing to dive in and effect a rescue when, as the water from the propellers subsided a trace of blood was noticed—and a second or two later the boat hook, wielded by the uncle, had caught hold and the task of bringing to the surface began. When completed, and artificial respiration of a kind was applied (to expel any water in the lungs), it was noticed that a gash across the head was bleeding. The village doctor was called, the cut stitched and the boy carried home, and after a day or two, was none the worse for the experience.

On falling in, he had been sucked by the turning of the propellers and the swing of the boat, under the stern, and the propellers just before stopping had cut the head. It could have been a tragedy, but by prompt action and hard work that was avoided.

Incidentally, the precious pence, paid for the paint scrubbing, was lost.



Mary Dalton. (A)

Mary Dalton B.A. (open) is this month's victim. Mary Dalton in ATE Contracts Department A7 Gads Hill. Her selection of music and books are as follows:

Music

1. *Smetana, Quartet No 1 in E minor*
2. *Rodrigo, Fantasia Parsun Gentilhombre*—both soothing and relaxing, and their beauty would give peace of mind.
3. *Mendelssohn, incidental music to Midsummer Nights' Dream.*
4. *Walton Facade*—having been involved in performances, they recall friends and places.
5. *Beethoven Symphony No 9 (the Choral)*
6. *Joshua Rifkin recording of Piano Rags Vol 1 including Magnetic and Maple Leaf Rags.*

These would prevent drowning in nostalgia, and help me to give heart and voice, and inspire to action.

Books

1. *World Atlas of Wine* by Hugh Johnson—to remind me of what I am missing, and to make use of the time by learning.
2. *New Oxford History of Music*—to help fill the gaps in my musical knowledge
3. *Collected Poems*—John Betjeman.

Break Holidays

"LET'S GO" AGAIN

The eighth edition of "Let's Go", the English Tourist Board's guide to weekend breaks, is now published.

It includes details on no less than 1,100 hotels offering two and three-day breaks (and some longer ones) throughout autumn, winter and spring. Some hotels also offer summer reductions. The choice of hotels is vast, from super-luxury city hotels with heated swimming pools and discos to quiet country inns with log fires and real ale.

Prices start from a mere £10.00 for two nights accommodation and continental breakfast at one London hotel and go up to £80.00 for five nights fully inclusive of all meals at a West Country resort hotel. But the average "Let's Go" price for dinner, bed and breakfast for two nights is about £29.00

Anniversary

Our congratulations and best wishes go to John Stokes and his wife Violet, on the celebration of their 40th (Ruby) wedding anniversary on 15 October.

Weddings

Stephen Grover, Quality Assurance Engineer, MASD, was married to Jane Pascoe on Saturday, 1 September. All friends and colleagues wish them well for the future.

Nigel Hunt, Planning Engineer, MASD, was married to Caroline Diggle on Saturday, 25 August. Wishes are given for health, happiness and prosperity.

Jimmy Crick of Central Ratefixing was married to Jean Yorke, MAV Pensions Officer at Chatham Registry Office.

Success

Whilst on holiday Miss Christine Green of MASD Inspection Office, was placed third in the Miss Pontin competition held at Brea Sands Camp.

Welcome

Robin Sheridan has been welcomed back into the fold of MASD Q A after four weeks in the big wide world.

inclusive of VAT. There are still bargains to be found at under £20.00, however, or, if you want a real luxury break, prices go up to around £60.00.

Some hotels offer their guests facilities such as the use of the hotel golf course or trout stream. Others include little extras such as a glass of sherry on arrival and a morning paper. Many hotels also arrange special interest weekends which cover subjects as varied as wine-tasting to horse racing. Details of these can be obtained by writing to the hotel group selected.

For anyone interested, copies of the book are available from the Editor, or you can write direct for a free copy to:

"Let's Go"
Hendon Road
Sunderland SR0 9XZ.

DO YOU KNOW?

FACTS ABOUT ANIMALS

Horses—the Oldest.

The greatest acceptable age for a horse is 51 years for an ex-Italian army horse named Topolino, foaled in Libya on 24 February, 1909, he died in Brescia, Italy, in February 1960. In 1919, however, an age of 54 years was reported for a pony living in France, but further details are lacking.

Largest

The heaviest horse ever recorded was Brooklyn Supreme, a pure bred Belgian stallion weighing 3,200lbs and standing 19½ hands (6ft 6in). He died 6 September 1948 aged 20 in Callender, Iowa, USA.

The tallest horse recorded was Dr. Le Gear, a seal brown dapple Percheron gelding standing 21 hands (7ft) and weighing 2,995lbs. Foaled in 1902, this horse, which measured 16ft from nose to tail, died in St. Louis, Missouri, USA in 1919.

The heaviest horse recorded in Great Britain is Saltmarsh Silver Crest born 1956, a Percheron stallion weighing 2,772lbs and owned by Geo. E. Sneath of Spalding, Lincs. The horse stands 18.1 hands (6ft ¼in) tall.

FACTS ABOUT THE PLANETS

Largest

Planets (including the Earth) are bodies which belong to the Solar System and which revolve around the sun in definite orbits. Jupiter, with an equatorial diameter of 88,700 miles and a polar diameter of 82,790 miles is the largest of the nine major planets with a mass 318.354 times, and a volume 1,313 times, that of the Earth. It also has the shortest period of rotation on its own equatorial axis, with a 'day' of only 9 hours, 50 minutes and 30.03 seconds.

Smallest

Of the major planets, Mercury whose period of revolution around the sun is only 87.9686 days, is the smallest; with a diameter of about 2,900 miles and a mass only 0.056 of that of the Earth; that is 330 trillion tons! Mercury has the highest average speed in orbit at 107.030 m/h. It rotates on its axis once every 58 days, 14 hours and 30 minutes.

Hottest

Mercury is also the hottest of the major planets, having a maximum surface temperature of well over 800° F on its hot side. However, this temperature depends to some extent on its distance from the sun, which can vary from 28,566,000 miles to 43,355,000 miles. The planet with a surface temperature closest to Earth's 59° F is Mars, with a day-time average of 28° F (maximum 87° F) and a night-side minimum of -148° F.

Suggestion Scheme

WHY DIDN'T I THINK OF THAT!

If you can come up with a good idea for improvement to a product, improve the production method, or simplify it, or any other idea for helping things along, why not make use of the Suggestion Scheme?

Forms for submitting suggestions are to be found around the works, or in case of difficulty, or for advice, contact John Neate, Personnel Department (Ext. 203). Among recent award winners are:

D.J. EDWARDS	Apprentice	ATED
H. FOWLER		AS&RD
M.J. SMITH		AS&RD
M.A. BROODBANK	Tester	MASD

Christmas holiday arrangements

The Works will close on Monday, 24 December 1979 and re-open on Wednesday, 2 January 1980.

The interim days will be taken as holiday entitlement as listed:

Tuesday	25 December 1979, Christmas Day, Bank Holiday.
Wednesday	26 December 1979, Boxing Day, Bank Holiday.
Thursday	27 December 1979, Annual Holiday, 1979 Entitlement.
Friday	28 December 1979, Annual holiday, 1979 Entitlement.
Monday	31 December 1979, Annual holiday, 1979 Entitlement.
Tuesday	1 January 1980, New Years Day, Bank Holiday.

MARCONI AVIONICS shows the world its new technology for the vigilant navy

New Systems 'see' in the dark, 'hear' under water and stabilize ships and missiles.

ROYAL NAVY EQUIPMENT EXHIBITION
WHALE ISLAND, PORTSMOUTH
10 - 14 SEPTEMBER 1979
STAND 1607 CHALETS 12 and 13

At the 1979 Royal Navy Equipment Exhibition, the results of new British developments are being shown by Marconi Avionics Limited, in an exhibit which will be seen by nearly 70 of the world's navies. The principal innovations are thermal imaging systems, with which objects can be viewed in total darkness; airborne acoustic processing and display systems, for detecting the quietest submarines at great depths and a 'strap down' gyroscope sensor unit, for the stabilization and control of the Royal Navy's latest air-drop torpedo.

The new developments are exhibited alongside a wide range of advanced equipments which the Company is already producing for use by the world's navies.

The exhibit comprises:

Thermal Imaging Common Module equipment. Developed for the UK Ministry of Defence, to meet night vision requirements of all three armed services, by a team formed from three leading electro-optical companies: Marconi Avionics, EMI Electronics and Rank Taylor Hobson.

Infra-red surveillance and target designation system.

Control Sensor Unit for the STING RAY lightweight air drop torpedo.

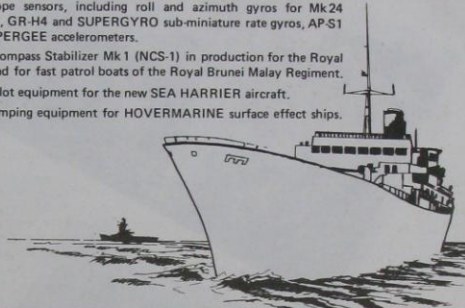
Lightweight acoustic processing and display system (LAPADS), in production for Royal Navy Sea King and antisubmarine helicopters. Trials Recording and Analysis System.

Gyroscope sensors, including roll and azimuth gyros for Mk 24 torpedo, GR-H4 and SUPERGYRO sub-miniature rate gyros, AP-S1 and SUPERGEE accelerometers.

Naval Compass Stabilizer Mk 1 (NCS-1) in production for the Royal Navy and for fast patrol boats of the Royal Brunei Malay Regiment.

Auto-pilot equipment for the new SEA HARRIER aircraft.

Roll damping equipment for HOVERMARINE surface effect ships.



MEDWAY BRANCH SPITFIRE RETURNS TO MANSTON

The Mk 16 Spitfire TB 752, preserved by the Medway Branch of the Royal Aeronautical Society was handed over formally to the Royal Air Force on 15 September 1979. At an impressive and moving ceremony at RAF Manston, where TB 752 will again resume duties as gate guardian, the President-Elect of the Royal Aeronautical Society Mr. Peter Hearne MSc DIC C.Eng FRAeS, who is also President of the Medway Branch of the Society, handed over the aircraft to Air Marshall Sir Philip Legesen KCB CB DFC AFC RAF Air Officer Commanding 18 Group.

TB 752 was completely stripped and treated with anti-corrosion paints and missing and damaged parts were restored over a period of only 18 months by Medway Branch Aircraft Preservation Group. Its 40 strong team members worked in their spare time to complete the job for the hand-over, on the eve of Battle of Britain Sunday. The work was carried out at Rochester Airport with the permission and co-operation of Marconi Avionics Limited.

After the handover ceremony, the Medway Branch presented a framed print of a Mk 9 Spitfire, autographed by Battle of Britain pilots, to the Officers' Mess. The Officer Commanding, on behalf of the station, presented to the Worshipful The Mayor of Medway, Cllr Mrs. Peggy Saxby, a specially-commissioned portrait of TB 752, depicted flying over the Medway Towns. The picture will occupy a place of honour in the Mayor's Parlour, Rochester.

The Spitfire is now the best preserved and best equipped of its kind on public display in the country and will continue to attract public donations to the RAF Benevolent Fund. The Branch, with the aid of the RAF and the community local to Manston, is launching a country-wide appeal for funds to erect a glass building to keep the Spitfire in its perfect state of preservation, for the benefit of succeeding generations of public visitors to Manston.



Air Marshall Sir Philip Legesen KCB CB DFC AFC RAF Air Officer Commanding 18 Group presents the Medway Branch with a beautifully made silver model of the Spitfire on behalf of the Commanding Officer, Wg Cdr Colin Campbell AMBIM RAF and the entire personnel of RAF Manston.

Around the Divisions

FLIGHT CONTROLS

In recent years the Company has seen a rapid growth in the demand for its flight control systems. To help us meet this expanding demand we have decided to establish a new Division, **Combat Aircraft Controls Division**. This Division will be responsible for the existing and future projects concerned with combat aircraft flight controls. Flight Controls Division will continue to be responsible for all other flight controls work in the Company.

Consequent on the re-organization of Flight Controls Division, we have much pleasure in announcing the appointment of Mr. D.I. Jackson as Assistant General Manager, with effect from 1 October 1979. In this position, he will be responsible for Combat Aircraft Controls Division, Flight Controls Division and Powerplant Systems Division and will report to Mr. R.W. Howard. He will continue to manage the present combined Flight Controls Division until the separation of the two divisions is effected.

Recently announced appointments within the Company include:

Dr. J.F. Bussell

as Manager of Flight Controls Division.

Mr. J.C. Spinks

as Manager of Combat Aircraft Controls Division.

Mr. I.S.D. Stitt

as Manager of Powerplant Systems Division.

Mr. M.O. Barton

as Technical Manager of Aviation Service and Repair Division, he will be responsible to the Divisional Manager for the engineering and technical activities of the Division.

Mr. R. Ruggles

as Deputy Divisional Manager.

Mr. M.J. Tooze, Mr. D.J. Hamlin, Mr. D.R. Taylor

Consultant Engineers within the Rochester Staff Engineering Team.

Mr. T.J. Crooks

Purchasing Co-ordinator Services

Mr. F.J. Pacey

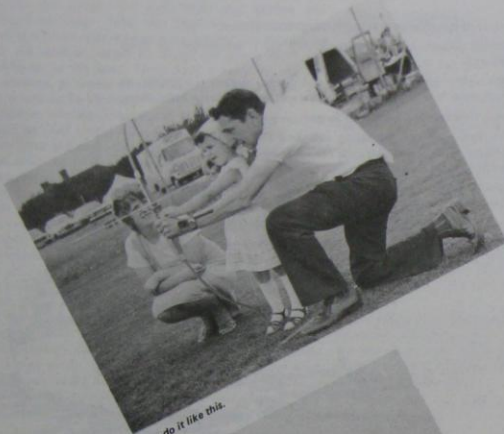
takes up an appointment within the Company organization away from Rochester.

Mr. P. Docherty

as Assistant Safety Officer.

www.rochesteravionicarchives.co.uk

ELLIOTT



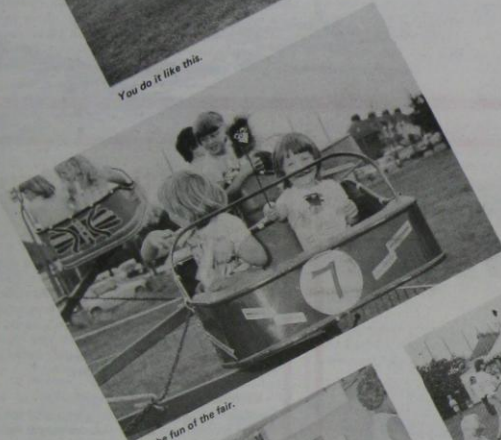
You do it like this.



Baby show entrants.



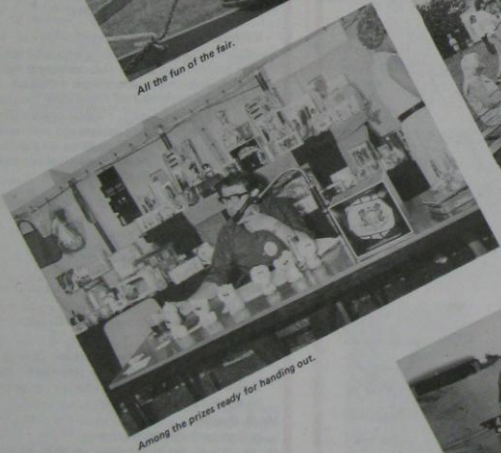
Can't wait to get started.



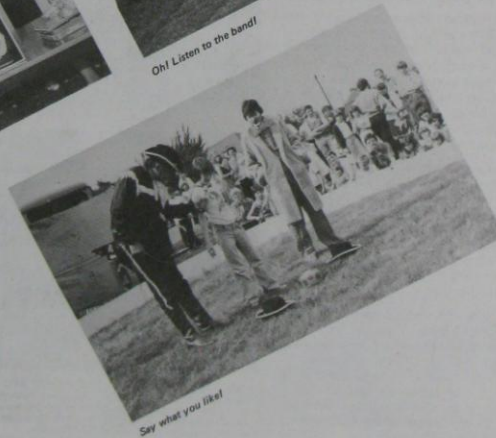
All the fun of the fair.



Oh! Listen to the band!



Among the prizes ready for handing out.



Say what you like!



Ready to eat the fish.



I'm watching you!

FETE DAY



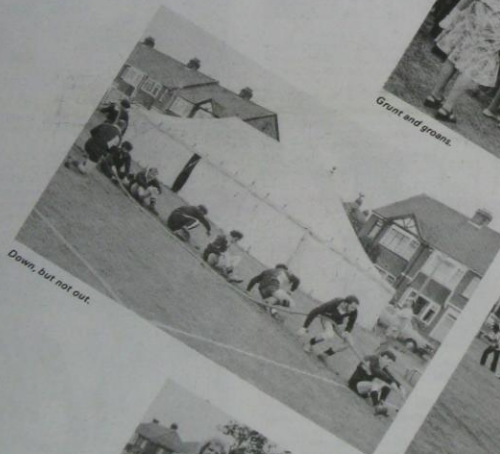
Swing high swing low!



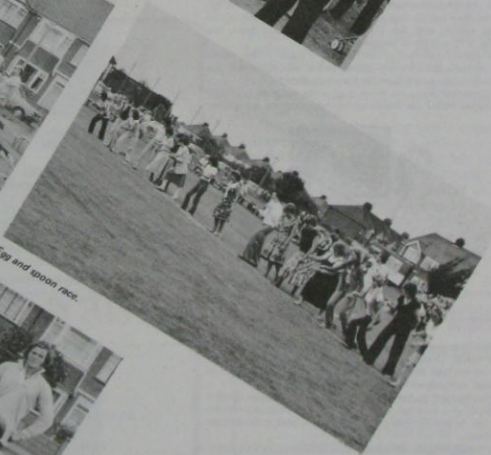
Karate to entertain.



Grunt and groans.



Down, but not out.



Egg and spoon race.



The gang after the match

RETIREMENTS



After a period of 24 years with the Company **Joseph Joel Sturt** has decided to retire.

He was the Production Administration Officer of FCD for the past two years, but previously was the well known Stock Controller of FCD and prior to the merge, of MAC, having begun his career with the Company in the Aviation Division as an Order Clerk.

He came into industry in 1955 after leaving the Army with the rank of Captain, having joined 30 years previously as a boy entrant. A case of a 'baton' in every boy's Knapsack. (We understand the 'baton' is referred to as a 'stick' for a Captain).

Beginning his service life at the Boys Technical School, Chatham, he set out to be a carpenter and joiner, however he became involved with the Royal Engineers remaining with them until his release from the Services.

During the 2nd World War, and the collapse of France, he came back to England from St. Malo just ahead of the pursuing German Army. He saw service in the Middle East, and with the occupation forces in Germany, as Captain Quarter Master.

Son of a Serviceman, he has been married for 47 years and has a son and daughter and six grandchildren. At a function in FCD on Friday, 28 September, Mr. J.F. Smith, Production Manager, spoke of Joe's qualities and enthusiasm for work, and how he will be missed within the Company, as he was one who always gave more than 100% to his many tasks.

On behalf of all his friends and fellow workers, he was presented with a Black and Decker Workmate and Drill to mark his retirement, and a card containing signatures and expressions of goodwill for a long and happy retirement.

Norman Evans has completed 25 years' service with the Company. After graduating from Manchester University in 1950, Norman was employed as a Development and Test Engineer by Marconi's Wireless Telegraph Co. Ltd. In 1954 he took up an appointment with Elliott Brothers (London) Ltd. - now Marconi Avionics Ltd. He has been employed over the past 25 years as a GW Trials Engineer, Chief Test Engineer for BLUE STEEL stand-off bomb inertial navigator, Project Manager Nimrod NAVITAC System, Project Manager Jaguar NAV/MASS and Quality Assurance Manager, Airborne Computing Division. He has held his present position of Product Assessment Manager, CDD, since February 1977.

He has recently been appointed to the position of Assistant Guided Weapons Safety Officer for MAV. This extra responsibility, representing as it does a unique combination of technical knowledge, experience and temperament does him and CDD much honour. This represents a long and distinguished career. Norman has always demonstrated those commendable attributes of modesty and self criticism, in fact on many occasions he would appear to have accepted personal responsibility for problems not of his own creation! Compound this with a good and fair judgement of people and character allied with dedicated management and it adds up to a person of considerable substance.

His hobby is amateur theatricals. Mr. Boardman presented a clock to mark the occasion.



Norman Evans. (B)

The latest recipient of 25 years' award in the AD Division is **Derek Hales**, a Project Engineer on MRCA. Before joining ADD, Derek was with Fuse Division as an Engineer on RF Filters, then NAGE Test Set and Post Design Engineering. He began service with the Company in ETR, then Radio and Radar, XTS and Naval Weapons.

A former member of the RAF, as a Radar Fitter, which was far removed from his apprenticeship as a signwriter, but which fired his enthusiasm for his later career.

A married man with three children (a daughter is in ISD) he enjoys motor car maintenance and modelling aeroplanes.



Derek Hales with Mr. A.J. Colwell.

George William Pean, the Assistant Chief Inspector of IND, received his 25 years' award earlier this year. His life within the Company covers service with MER as a Test Engineer, and IN, where he began as a Test Engineer.

Apprenticed at Tilling Stevens of Maidstone, he is married with one son and one daughter, and two grandsons. His out of work activities include walking, cycling, music, reading and gardening.

Of his years with the Company, George says it has been uneventful, but quite a happy time as he has made many friends.



The year 1954 saw a number of young men join the Company as apprentices, and those who progressed on and made the grade can now celebrate 25 years' service, and receive the recognition of their loyalty.

One such is **John Goodhand**, the Production Manager of MASD. He has had a progressive and rewarding career within the Company, and was the subject of a Personality Profile in the January 1978 edition of MAV News.



John Goodhand, Production Manager, MASD, with his 25 years' service award. (B)

Thomas Cheesman, Chief Estimator of CMS, who is an ex-apprentice, has been honoured for his 25 years' service with the Company.

His service has been spent in Gyro Division, Gear Division, MACD and Ratefixing Department, before taking up his present post. He was one of the later band of National Servicemen and did service for two years.

25 YEARS AWARD

A former student of Highfield Secondary Modern School, he is married with a 35 year old daughter and lists among his hobbies Coarse Fishing.



Tom Cheesman and Peter Burrows. (B)

Another Elliott Apprentice, who has stayed the course of 25 years is **Jimmy Crick**, and he has been rewarded with a gift to mark the event.

Jim has moved around through Naval Weapons, Model Shop, National service in the RAF as a Wireless Operator, TAC Model Shop and ADD Model Shop before joining the Central Ratefixing Dept. He is also very active within the Sports and Social Club, but finds time to indulge in his personal hobbies of Philately and Phylumism (matchbox collecting).



Jimmy Crick and Alon Teers with his gift of a watch. (A)

"THE GOOD LIFE"

Phil first joined the Company in 1961 as a wireman in the then 'Radar Division'. After two years he decided to leave and try his luck as a professional musician with the 'Phil Lee Combo' with whom he toured France and Germany.

He returned to the fold in 1966 with 'Air Space Control Division' as a wireman, progressed through ACD as a Planner and on to MASD where he is, today, a Senior Production Engineer.

His wife Barbara, who used to be John Bradley's secretary, is now Personnel Manager with British Luratie at Highnam.

In 1973 Phil and Barbara decided to leave town life and move into the country at Frittenden. They immediately found the first major snag - the only link with civilization was a bus every other Tuesday! They began work restoring a derelict cottage whilst maintaining a small amount of livestock, chickens and ducks, also growing vegetables in about half an acre. This continued for five years, then the self-sufficiency bug having well and truly bitten they moved into a 15th century farm-house about 200 yards from their other cottage. This farm-house also required considerable renovation and stood in approximately two acres.



Phil Hodge. (A)

They teamed up with two other families living nearby who also owned small holdings and a decision was made to pool resources. One would be responsible for poultry and

vegetables (this was Phil's area, another would have cows and the third pigs, thus milk, eggs, butter, cheese, beef, pork and vegetables were available to make this a virtually self-sufficient community).

Apart from the produce, manpower is also pooled where it's a case of many hands make light work. They are just installing a wood and straw burning central heating system so look out Arabs - no profit here! All this of course constitutes an 18 hour day at weekends with a variety of jobs to be done, not least of which is Barbara's chore of plucking, drawing and trussing all the poultry (ugh!). The sum total at the end of the year for each member of the combine is about 35 cubic feet of prime quality produce. To supplement the already mentioned fare they go out shooting pheasants, partridges, rabbits, etc.

Phil and Barbara are also heavily involved in many community committees and activities. He says "It is a full rural life contrasting sharply with my factory job, it really is the good life."

So in conclusion if the BBC ever need a replacement for 'Tom and Barbara' we have two very strong contenders.

R.G.C.

Gather round for a FIRESIDE DEGREE

If your own name regularly appears on your Christmas shopping list, and you want a present you can savour into the New Year, now's the time to start thinking about applying to the Open University.

There are courses to cover most interests and pockets — from an eight-week Consumer Decisions course, for just £10, to a 10-month course on the Arts or Technology, that will launch you into study for a B.A. (Open) degree.

With the B.A. as your option, you will be following on the heels of 32,000 graduates who have already qualified for a 'fireside' degree, by studying at home with the Open University.

Not that studying with the OU is cosy. The academic standards demanded of students are the same as for other universities. But you will be able to get a degree without giving up your job, or too much disrupting your established way of life. You will have to spend 12 to 14 hours each week on university study, and there will be course-linked TV and radio programmes to tune into. In two of your study years — the first, definitely — attendance at a week's summer school will be required. These schools are held at conventional university campuses, from July to September, and offer a taste of campus life.

Most of the year however, Open University students work from a mixture of specially written books that are posted to them regularly; from their television and radio, and sometimes from audio tapes and records. Some courses include a home experiment kit, which might be chemicals, test tubes, and moon-measuring equipment for the first-year Science kit, or an electric organ to illustrate a course on the Elements of Music.

OU students who previously have experienced some higher education may be awarded up to three exam passes, or credits, towards the six they need for a degree. The system is flexible enough, also, for students to take a year off study, to move perhaps, or have a baby, or to take a half-credit course if job and study schedules get too tight.

All students are admitted to the Open University on the same basis: a 'first come, first served' queue demanding no formal qualifications for entry. All, too, must start with a broad-based Foundation course: on Maths, Social Science, Arts, Science or Technology.

In the Foundation year especially, students can take advantage of study facilities that the OU sets up around the country. For every ten or so students who enrol, there is a tutor/counsellor holding regular tutorials at one of 260 local study centres based mostly in schools, technical colleges and colleges of further education.

Some of these centres are linked to an OU computer for use with several of the Open University's more technical and scientific courses.

Altogether, undergraduates have 130 degree courses to choose from, but over 70 of these can be taken by Associate Students as one-off courses — for vocational interest or 'relaxation' — without proceeding to a degree.

People who enrol as Associate Students have access to OU study centres and tutorials and can complete tutor-marked or computer-marked assignments, to check on their progress, alongside the degree student. Moreover, if they pass the course, their success can be counted towards a degree, if undergraduate study is taken up subsequently.

But if all this is too ambitious, and you want a shorter study experience, the Open University's Community Education programme could be for you.

As well as the Consumer Decisions course, there is the popular Energy in the Home and two eight-week courses on parenting: the First Years of Life and the Pre-School Child. Childhood 5 - 10 is another Community Education course in the pipeline.

Some mums taking these courses have got together in local self-help groups to study communally. For others, perhaps more tied to the home, the Open University's Community Education courses are a unique and fairly cheap way to edge back into thinking about study, with a topic that will give benefit immediately.

Education in the Health and Social Welfare field is another area which is growing. The Open University has already helped provide a graduate career structure for teachers, through its undergraduate programme and its work as an in-service training agency.

Now the opportunity is being built up for professional and voluntary social workers in the health and social services. One of the courses, the Handicapped Person in the Community, can later be counted towards undergraduate degree studies if taken as an Associate Student. Two related courses, not yet eligible for credit towards a degree, are An Ageing Population and Conflict in the Family.

If you want to give yourself a Christmas present and become a B.A. (Open) undergraduate in 1981, write to Admissions Office, P.O. Box 48, The Open University, Walton Hall, Milton Keynes, MK7 6AS. The application period starts at the beginning of January, but apply early to get to the top of the admissions queue. Don't forget you don't need formal entry qualifications.

Once you're studying, you will be among new colleagues from all walks of life. Office workers, train drivers, shop-floor men, nurses — they all study with the Open University, and 80% of its students are in paid employment.

Some study solely for pleasure, but others subsequently find a dynamic effect on their careers. Clerks, cashiers and typists have turned into recruitment experts, lecturers and researchers; not overnight, but in a way that would have been impossible without the Open University. Most say that the Open University has been good for their careers.

If, however, you are thinking more in terms of a short Community Education course such as Energy in the Home, or of a single course from the degree programme, apply from May 1980 to ASCO, P.O. Box 76, The Open University, Milton Keynes, MK7 6AN.



GOLD MEDALLIST FOR ELLIOTT RIFLE CLUB

During the weekend of 28-29 September an international shooting match was held at Bisley, Surrey, between Great Britain and the United States of America. This competition, called the Wimbledon Match, was shot using various types of flintlock and percussion lock muzzle loading weapons, both antique and exact copies of antiques.

There were three team events, for rifles, pistols and shotguns, and 13 individual events, three pistol, eight rifle and two shotgun. The American teams won all three team events and took the Grand Prix of Wimbledon Trophy for the aggregate of the teams but the British shooters managed to get a share of the individual medals. The final tally was:
USA — 8 Gold, 9 Silver, 6 Bronze
GB — 5 Gold, 4 Silver, 7 Bronze

An Elliott (Rochester) Rifle Club member, Jack Ruler, who works in Flight Controls Division won the gold medal in the percussion revolver event using a modern copy of a Remington American Civil War revolver which is loaded separately with gunpowder, lead balls and percussion caps instead of the modern type cartridges.

This is the crowning achievement to a successful year for Jack in which he has won seven trophies and sixteen medals in various club, county, regional and national competitions. He is the current British percussion revolver champion and expects to be selected for the British team to compete in the next World Championships which will be held in Washington, USA, in September 1980.

Kitchen Kapers

Tips from our sailing friends.

TARKA'S TEA CAKE
2 cups s.t. flour
1 cup mixed fruit
1 cup brown sugar
1 cup cold tea
1 beaten egg

Method: Put fruit in tea, bring to the boil, allow to go cold. Stir in the rest of the ingredients. Bake for 1 hour, Regulo 6.

TEAL'S SHORTBREAD
8 oz plain flour
4 oz cornflour
4 oz sugar
8 oz soft margarine

Method: Mix together, put into tins and bake for 1 hour at 325° F or Regulo 4.

FLAPJACKS
4 oz butter/margarine
1 oz soft brown sugar
2 tablespoons golden syrup
8 oz porridge oats
½ teaspoon salt

Method: Melt fat, sugar, syrup in pan over low heat. Work in oats and salt. Press into well greased swiss roll tin, bake for 30-40 minutes at 350° F or Regulo 4. Cut into wedges while warm, remove from tin when cold. Store in tin — "will keep for ages".
Add coconut, cherries or chopped nuts for added flavour.

A LAMENT!

what went wrong?

YOUR REQUEST

*The April 'News' was welcome —
a request we did enjoy
Cheer leaders for the "Knock-out" —
we seven did then reply
We had our cheer rhyme ready —
choreography all planned
"Marconi" cotton tee-shirts —
short skirts made to expand
Our tambourines were promised —
we practised all the tricks
Became so lithe and lissom —
as we highered all our kicks
But days and weeks went swiftly past —
no acknowledgement received
And two days prior to event —
hurried plans were just perceived
Three cheers for leaders — who did fill —
the post — in such great haste
But — for seven happy volunteers —
it's left a bitter taste!!!!!!*

NAMES TO FACES — Apology

We regret the omission of this feature, for this issue of MAV News. It should have been the Transport Department which we hope to include in a future edition. Meanwhile, the item will be resumed next month.

DIARY NOTES

INDOOR BOWLS TOURNAMENT
at Riverside, Chatham
each Monday evening
Commencing 15 October until February 1980

**Elliott Cricket Club
CANDLELIGHT SUPPER**
Thursday 1 November
7.45 pm sherry reception
£3.25 each
Club-house, Featherby Road

CAROL LESSONS SERVICE
Gillingham Baptist Church
Monday 17 December 1979
under Sports & Social Club auspices

www.rochesteravionicarchives.co.uk

Sports and social club round up

TENNIS

The Tennis Section has had a mixed season. On the playing side, the Men's 1st team maintained their position in Division I of the Medway League and the Men's 2nd team did the same in Division III. Unfortunately, the 3rd team consisting mainly of youngsters were relegated to Division IV but should have a better season next year. The Ladies team also did very well and maintained their position in Division I of the Ladies League which had been won the previous year.

Away from the Leagues, the Wednesday club night, which was started this year, was a great success and always well attended due in no small part to the efforts of Maureen Woodbridge of FCD who was almost always in attendance.

Generally speaking, however, the season was one of some disorganization and lack of support in terms of volunteers for committee duties. This left a lot for one or two people to do and caused problems. Hopefully this can be rectified next year. There will be an Annual General Meeting of the Tennis Section in March 1980 and the date will appear in a later issue of M&V News. Anyone who is interested or who has any suggestions of their own is invited to attend.

IT'S A 'KNOCKOUT'



In a charity fund raising challenge at Kent Police Headquarters, Maidstone on Saturday, 8 September, Marconi Avionics participated with a 'Knockout' Team comprising members of the Graduate Association. The 'Knockout' competitors were: Kent Police, Reed Sports Club, Kent Fire Brigade and Kent Messenger.

The M&V Team were:

BACK ROW (Left to Right)

Graham Cooper (IN), Trevor Stone (ADD), Manuel Mascarenhas (PSD), Nigel King (FCD), Peter Laybourn (FCD), John Dabkowski (FCD).

MIDDLE ROW:

Joanne Vickers (Supporter), Irene Truskowska (Supporter), Christine Truskowska (FCD), Carol Kemsley (FCD), Kate Morgan (Training Department).

FRONT ROW:

Kim Steel (Supporter), Donna Kemsley (Supporter).

In addition, Angus Maclean (ATE) was a Team Member and overall liaison with the Kent Police and Team co-ordination was exercised by Francis Latter (Training Department).

An enjoyable time was had by all competitors and the event was a great success. As it was, someone had to lose, and the Marconi Team had the satisfaction of knowing they stayed the course, even though their points gained placed them at the bottom of the table. (See the volunteers' lament in this issue).

ATHLETICS PROGRAMME FOR IMMEDIATE FUTURE

Date	Fixture	Venue
Oct 27	Unigate marathon	Harlow
27	Met. Police club match	
27	Kent League first round colts and boys	Mote Park
Nov 3	Reigate relays	
4	Kent County Championship colts, boys, veterans	
4	Mike Sully	
10	South of Thames road race	Brighton
17	H.H.H.	Horsham
18	Rochester 5 mile race	
24	Kent League 2nd round colts and boys	Sheppey Sch. Minster
24	Club match	Leybourne
Dec 1	Kent League	Mote Park
8	Club run	Dartford
15	Cambridge Harriers C.C.	
15	Kent League 3rd round colts and boys	Sevenoaks
22	Club run	Leybourne



FIVE-A-SIDE FOOTBALL

A new league season started on 27 September and the team, still known as ELLIOTTS, is hoping for an improvement on their mid-table position of last year. With a settled side this is very possible. The players registered for the season are:

Mick Smith, MASD; Graham Thomas, ISD; Paul Reed, ISD; Bob Unsworth, ISD; Steve Rodrigues, ISD; Kevin Hambleton, ISD; Keith Jones, ISD; Nigel Williams, EDP; Dave Golding, MASD; Peter Baker, ISD; Dave Humphries, MASD.

The fixtures up until the end of November are:

Thurs. 1 November	WHITE STAR	9.35 pm KO
Tues. 6 November	STROOD COUNTY	7.10 pm KO
Tues. 13 November	HOBOURN-EATON	8.05 pm KO
Thurs. 22 November	RED STAR	7.10 pm KO
Thurs. 29 November	WIGMORE	9.50 pm KO

All matches are played at the New Casino, Maidstone Road, Chatham.

65 Club

The September meeting took the form of a produce show and harvest festival. There was a large assortment of goods, garden produce and flowers on show, being sold later for club funds, which realized £12. A fine display of cacti, and a talk on the care of cacti, were given by friends of the club. Several new members were welcomed and wedding and birthday anniversaries were noted.

The meeting ended with a short Thanksgiving Service conducted by Jess Griffiths.

ROYAL AERONAUTICAL ASSOCIATION

Programme 1979 - 80 Season

Date	Event
10 Oct 1979	Airline Operation of the Boeing 747 Speaker: Captain R. Seed Chief Pilot Technical Services British Airways.
14 Nov	"The Ark of the Winds" A light-hearted history of aviation Speaker: J. Bagley.
12 Dec	North Sea Exploration, and the role of the helicopter Speaker: D.J. Courtney, Marketing Manager British Airways.
9 Jan 1980	Remotely piloted helicopters Speaker: R.G. Austin, Westland Helicopters.
13 Feb	Schneider Trophy Speaker: F/LT R. Barker.
12 March	Investigation of Aircraft Accidents Speaker: F.H. Jones RAE.
9 April	BAC Hawk Speaker: R. Dabbs, British Aerospace.
14 May	A.G.M. with film and other attractions.



Full speed with the wind.



Making headway.

Pictures of members of Marconi Avionics flotilla 'at sea' on the Blackwater, during the recent encounter with Marconi Sailing Club.

For amusement only

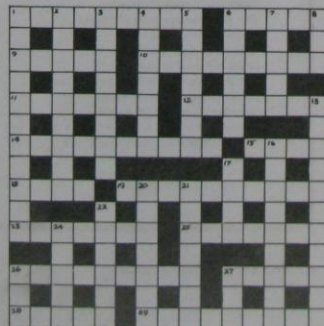
ACROSS

1. Watch it grow, Bristol fashion (9)
6. College from a village (5)
9. Appertaining to the Pope (5)
10. Psychiatrist's work (5, 4)
11. The Kremlin definitely is (7)
12. You, as an individual (7)
14. Hiding in the grass, quietly (5, 5)
15. Cast your eyes around (4)
18. Improper feasting, with greed (4)
19. A duty to feed the hungry after work (4, 6)
26. An acted statement on horseback (5)
29. OAP Christmas Bonus (5, 4)

DOWN

1. Ridiculously in excess (11)
2. Spoken at the moment, going by (2, 7)
3. Mud flats maybe savoured (8)
4. Shakespeare's merchant character (7)
5. It won't be too long (3, 4)
6. A Sheffield craftsman no doubt (6)
7. Instructed to get up (5)
8. Finish, terminate (3)
13. A superior being, top drawer (5, 6)
16. Female voice of lower note (9)
17. Explore to get reward (4)
20. Violence and treason (7)
21. Make dough as required (7)
22. Gather together service wise (6)
24. If one can one should (5)
26. Conveyance vehicle (3)
27. Equal in cash (3)

CROSSWORD No. 19



SOLUTION TO CROSSWORD No. 18

ACROSS

- 1 Oiler, 4 Slapdash, 10 Help, 11 Measures, 13 Transport, 14 Dance, 16 Naps, 17 Corona, 21 Strain, 22 Polo, 26 Route, 27 Misnomer, 29 Generous, 30 Brood, 31 Expallite, 32 Leaky.

DOWN

- 2 Schnapps, 3 Enlist, 5 Leak, 6 Pasadena, 7 Airing, 8 Hozier, 9 Instant, 12 Special, 15 Frantic, 18 Steel rod, 19 Farm book, 20 Joy ride, 23 Brogue, 24 Turnip, 25 Enable, 28 Hunt.

Photographs taken by the Staff Photographers will be acknowledged in the following way: (A) Alan Keats, (B) Susan Ruddiehan (C) Linda Jones (D) Tim Murray.

The views and opinions expressed by contributors are not necessarily those of the Editor or Company. Any such opinions or comments are those of the contributor alone, and are printed solely as a matter of interest.
Produced by the Publishers: Reed, CEC Machines Limited, Shefford Air Machine Services Limited. Reed and printed by John R. Boyd & Company Limited, Chesham, Bucks.