

NO. 24 APRIL 1980

MARCONI AVIONICS NEWS

House Journal of Marconi Avionics Limited

MOTTO FOR THE MONTH
 ★ ★ "The sting of a reproach is the truth of it". ★ ★

Royal Days for Marconi People

A Golden day at the Palace for air-minded Ann and family

AWARDED BY
 HRH The DUKE of EDINBURGH
 To
 Ann Golding
 on attaining
 THE GOLD STANDARD
 of the
 DUKE of EDINBURGH'S AWARD
 1980



Tuesday 25 March was a special day for the air-minded Golding family, of Beechings Way, Gillingham, when nineteen-year old Ann Golding received the coveted Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award certificate for outstanding achievement as an air cadet. Picture shows Ann and her proud parents, prior to their departure for Buckingham Palace. There, Ann received the Award certificate from His Royal Highness himself.

It is a family affair in more ways than one. All three work at Marconi Avionics Limited of Rochester, Kent. Ann Golding is a trainee test programmer in the Company's Automatic Test Equipment Division at Gad's Hill, Gillingham, where she works with some of Europe's most advanced computer-controlled equipment, for the ground support of aircraft such as Nimrod and Tornado. Father, Sid, is head of production scheduling in the Combat Aircraft Controls Division and mother, Joan, is a library clerk in the Instrument Systems Division, both at Airport Works, Rochester.

As their uniforms reveal, all three are leading figures in local air training activities. Ann, who had formerly won both the Bronze and Silver Duke of Edinburgh Awards, is an Officer Cadet in the Air Wing of the Girls Venture Corps at Gillingham, of which her mother, Joan, is the Unit Commandant. Victor Sydney Golding, her father, is Warrant Officer in charge of training in the Ditton Air Training Corps Squadron.

The Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award is highly prized among cadets as the accolade for successful achievement in many kinds of activity, including community service, air ability, nursing, sport and expeditions. Ann, the only Gillingham girl to win the Gold Award on this occasion, is also the Gillingham Unit's first-ever recipient.

The Goldings are in every way an air-minded family and their connection with Marconi Avionics is deep-rooted - and growing. Sid Golding has been with the Company for 19 years, Joan for six and Ann for three. In addition,



The Golding family with proud smiles of success.

Ann's elder brother, David, is a draughtsman in Maritime Aircraft Systems Division, her cousin, Melvin Jones, is an apprentice in Powerplant Systems Division and her future sister-in-law, Beverly Morant, is a secretary in Instrument Systems Division.

A day to remember

Under the auspices of the 'Not Forgotten' Association an invitation to a garden party at Buckingham Palace was given to Jan Jablonski, formerly in FARL until his retirement. This annual event takes place in the summer-time to honour disabled ex-service men and women.

The programme consisted of a reception in the Grand Entrance, with the Band of the Scots Guards playing selections. Tea followed at 3.45pm and an entertainment provided by artistes from the London Players Theatre. The programme being devised by Anona Winn MBE.

An impressive list of 45 establishments sent guests among them being Pembroke House, Chatham and Preston Hall Hospital, Maidstone, besides many individual invitations such as the one to Jan Jablonski.

Our picture shows the effervescent Jan, outside the Palace, wearing his decorations. It will be remembered that among the honours he received as a serviceman was the Polish equivalent to our V.C.



ARTISTES
 A Programme of Music, Hall ARTISTES from
 London's Famous PLAYERS THEATRE
 Arranged by
 DENIS MARTIN
 Chairman: FRED STONE
 At the Piano: GLOFFREY BRAWN

LOIS MCDONALL, 46, presider of English National Opera
 Programme devised by ANONA WINN, M.B.E.
 Pianists: Anita Lee by Misses John Broadhead

Curtain raised from the following Hospitals and Homes:

National Hospital, Surrey	Beaconsfield House, Chichester
Widmore House, Blackpool	Popple Hill Hospital, Brentwood
Brookmore House, Sharnford	Princess Margaret Hospital, Whitechapel
Flatford House, Buxton	Poppleton Lodge, South Shields, Durham
Chapel Allerton Hospital, Leeds	Queen Alexandra Hospital, Liphook
Chesham Hospital, Eastbourne	Rushmore Road House, London
Churchill Lodge, Newcastle	Reading War Disabled Club
Clare Hill Lodge, Winton	Rosewood Hospital, Cardiff
Confield House, Bournemouth	Royal Hospital, Chelsea
Ernest Bevin House, Bournemouth	St. Charles' Home, Banstead
Leitham House, Long Sanday, Orkney	St. David's Home, King's Cross
Pollock House, Warrington	St. Dunstan's Hospital Club
Green Park Hospital, Epsom	St. Thomas's Home, London
Hay Mansions, London	St. Hugh's Home, Middlesbrough
Hill House, Glasgow	St. James' Convalescent Home, Gr. Bonnington
Hornsea Hospital, Epsom	Springfield Hospital, Torquay
Kingswood Cottage, Tadworth	Royal Sea and Coast Home, Richmond
Lodge House, Kippen	St. Andrew's (R.A.F. Area), Northampton
London War Disabled Club	The Old Manor House, Salisbury
Waverley House, Westgate-on-Sea	The St. Oswald Hall Foundation, London
Manby Hill Hospital, Loughborough	West Park Hospital, Epsom
Mount Pleasant Hospital, Chippingwood	

Northants Island "Home Road" and "B.L.S.E.M.A." Personnel
 Ambulance Service and Ambulance Units provided by: St. John Ambulance Brigade
 Special to: John and Red Cross Society, Brighton, Wiltshire and Bournemouth, Dorset.

THE "NOT FORGOTTEN" ASSOCIATION
 Registered with Charity No. 106 - 10, a committee with Sir David Bruce, Chairman.
 Patron: HRH THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH
 Chairman: J. BURNELL, TORQUAY, Devon
 Vice-Chairman: G. ARBON, WARRINGTON, Cheshire
 Honorary Secretary: G. W. J. BURNELL, BURNLEY, Lancashire
 Honorary Treasurer: G. W. J. BURNELL, BURNLEY, Lancashire
 Honorary Secretary: G. W. J. BURNELL, BURNLEY, Lancashire

DO YOU KNOW?

The British people are said to be the greatest dog lovers in the world. Here are a few facts concerning these animals.

Largest

The heaviest breed of domestic dog is the St. Bernard. The heaviest example known is Schwarzwald Hof Duke owned by Dr. A.M. Bruner of Wisconsin, USA. He was whelped on 8 October 1964 and weighed 283 lb on 3 April 1968.

The largest ever recorded in Britain was also a St. Bernard named Brandy, owned by Miss G.J. White of Chinnor, Oxfordshire. He weighed 259lbs on 11 February 1966.

Tallest

The world's tallest breed of dog is the Irish Wolfhound. The extreme recorded example was Broadbridge Michael (born 1926) owned by Mrs. Mary Brown, then of Suttan-at-Hone, Kent. He stood 3ft 9½in at the shoulders.

Smallest

The smallest breed is the hairless Chihuahua from Mexico. Their average weight is 2-4 lbs, but some specimens weigh only 16oz when fully grown.

Fastest

The Saluki is considered the fastest breed of domestic dog, it is also called the Arabian gazelle hound. Speed of up to 43mph have been claimed but the Saluki is probably not as fast as the present day greyhound, which has attained a measured speed of just over 39mph.

Rarest

The rarest breed of dog is the Lowchen or lion dog, of which only 40 were known to be alive in the early seventies (32 in Germany and four each in Belgium and Great Britain).



CASTAWAY

Our volunteer this month is Miss Sylvia Hales of the Reprographic Department, (she also features in names to faces). Her working life was in wholesale grocery and during the war years as a capstan operator. The choice of records reflects her wide tastes.

Music

1. Overture - The Hebrides Fingal's Cave by Mendelssohn - something strong and powerful.
2. Clair de Lune - Suite Bergamasque by Debussy - for tranquillity.
3. Tales from Vienna Woods - waltz op 235 by Johann Strauss - makes one feel good and lively.
4. Songs of the Seashore by James Galway - dreamy and relaxing.
5. All in the April Evening (Robertson-Tynan) by the Treorchy Male Voice Choir - because I like male choirs.
6. Blow the winds southerly (arr. Whittaker) by Kathleen Ferrier - never ending memories.

Books

1. Jelma from the Whitebook Series - something that I would never tire of.
2. Beyond the Blue Mountains by Jean Plaidy (paper back edition) good reading - history as I like it.
3. Wind in the Willows by Kenneth Grahame - recall childhood memories.

English Gardens

The English, as a nation, have a passion for gardening. From the smallest town garden to the largest stately home, a good deal of labour, care and attention is lavished on making things grow. This pre-occupation with gardens and gardening has produced some of the finest gardens in the world; spanning many centuries in age and style and highlighting many aspects of England's illustrious past.

In "Home thoughts from abroad", Robert Browning, the English poet, enthused thus -

*'Oh, to be in England
now that April's there,
and whoever wakes in England sees, some
morning, unawares,
That the lowest boughs of the brushwood sheaf
Round the elm tree bole are in tiny leaf,
while the chaffinch sings on the orchard bough
In England - now!*

There's no doubt that garden visiting is a pastime for all seasons - providing you visit the right garden at the right time of year!

Gardens can be all things to all people. They can offer peace and beauty, fresh air and exercise, a chance for the keen amateur to learn from the expert and for all the family to enjoy an entertaining, relaxing day out together. There are city gardens, seaside gardens and way-out-in-the-country gardens. All offering you a welcome to visit an English garden.

For our own part, there are keen 'specialist' gardeners, in our midst, and two of them are opening their gardens for the general public to share and enjoy, and also help the funds of various charities.

1) Mr. and Mrs. L.O. Miles of 91, Chestnut Avenue, Walderslade, have an interesting small garden of 1/8 acre with alpine and rare plants incorporated in rockeries, bog gardens, peat beds, ponds and borders. No dogs allowed in. Tea and cold drinks are available and admission is 25p, children 10p. Open from 27 April to 3 August each Sunday, or by appointment at other times. Part of proceeds is given to Gardeners' Sunday appeal.

2) The other 'Marconi' attached garden is at 2 Gention Close, Weedswood, Walderslade, Chatham, home of Mr. and Mrs. Jim Hamblett. This again is a small alpine garden with many unusual and rare plants, including a large collection of dwarf conifers, rare shrubs and dwarf bulbs, troughs, a pool and waterfall. No dogs can be admitted. Admission each Sunday from 27 April to 29 June, 2-6pm at 20p adults, children 5p.

To promote further interest in the unique heritage of English gardens, Thames TV will begin a series on 'The history of the English garden' at Easter. David Bellany's 'Pathway to adventure', will feature gardens throughout the summer.

The Tradescant Trust has recently opened a Garden History Museum at St. Mary's Church, Lambeth. A special trail is being developed in the South East to lead visitors from the Channel ports through gardens in Kent and Sussex to the West Country.

In spring-time, the following Kentish gardens are also well worth a visit:

Great Comp., east of Borough Green, off B2016. An intriguing 'new' garden, created from scratch since 1957. Designed, constructed and maintained by the owners themselves. Open regularly May to October.

Hever Castle, home of Lord Astor of Hever, once the home of ill fated Anne Boleyn. Created this century in classical style, it has a maze, herb garden, and the chess garden. The Fountain garden also beckons for a visit, and a climb up the golden stairs (lined by azaleas) will be re-

warded by a fabulous view across the Castle gardens and lake. For the factual minded, 800 men and six steam diggers, plus a special railway, were employed in creating the lake.

Over the border to Sussex there is:

Great Dixter, one of the great gardens of the south off A28, south-east of Tunbridge Wells, open Tuesdays, Sundays and Bank Holidays April to October. These grounds, once a farmyard, were designed by Sir Edwin Lutyens, and many of the farm buildings have been retained. Features include a long border of mixed planting, rose garden, orchard and sunken garden with an octagonal lily pond, a fascinating topiary. Plants are on sale here.

The English Tourist Board have issued a booklet 'Visit an English garden' which gives details of gardens, large and small, with suggestions as to when best to visit. It is available from all Tourist Information Centres or by post from the English Tourist Board, 4 Grosvenor Gardens, London, SW1W 0DU, at 75p plus 15p postage.

To put the record STRAIGHT (2)

St. George was an English Saint who slew a dragon

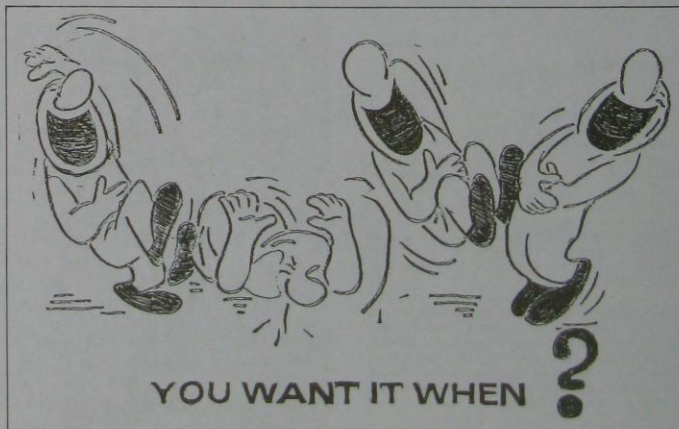
According to an old English ballad, St. George was the son of Lord Albert of Coventry. He fought in the Crusades and while in the Middle East saved Sabra, a King's daughter, from sacrifice to a terrible dragon, which he slew. He then married Sabra and returned to live with her in Coventry.

St. George has since become the Patron Saint of England (his day is 23 April) and several other countries, including Portugal, and is also the Patron Saint of soldiers and boy scouts. But what little evidence there is to support his existence suggests that he was actually a soldier of the 3rd/4th century who lived in the Middle East and was persecuted for his Christian beliefs.

He was apparently beheaded about AD 303 by the Roman Emperor Diocletian at Nicomedia (now Izmit) in Turkey. Within 100 years he was being revered throughout the Christian world - including England by the 7th century - as a minor Saint. The Crusaders under Richard I believed that he aided them in battle and when they returned to England at the end of the 12th century they encouraged his adoption as a Saint of high rank. Within a few years, his feast day was being regularly kept, and about 1348 Edward III dedicated the Order of the Garter to him. His position as Patron Saint of England stems from about that time. The Roman Catholic Church has recently 'demoted' him, because the evidence of his existence is tenuous.

The story of St. George's conquest of the dragon does not figure at all in the earliest accounts of his life, but gradually appeared and gained favour in the Middle Ages. The battle symbolizes the conquest of evil, or Satan (the dragon) by good, or Christ (represented by the Saint), thus rescuing the faith (the virgin who is to be sacrificed to the dragon).

St. George's battle has been given an English setting in some versions of the story - such as Dragon's Hill in Berkshire.





PERSONALITY OF THE MONTH



Among the many people who spend their working hours at the Rochester site, there are some of such a colourful nature, and wide experience that makes them stand out from their fellows. David Jack Hetterley, is among the most colourful, with a wide experience of life and of the world. An inbuilt sense of humour, and a natural trait of doing good work brings him to the forefront.

Jack, was born in Chatham at 6, Holbourne Lane and was educated at the Troy Town Council School, Rochester. He and his brother walked daily to and from school, an ordeal which would daunt many people today should they be asked to perform this task.

Leaving school at the age of 14, he became an apprentice to his father as a fisherman and dredgerman on the River Medway. A copy of his indenture is pictured herewith, couched in the quaint language of the legal document.

The River Medway, in those days was an important fishing ground providing in season smelt, poutings, dabs, eels and cod. As a fully completed indentured apprentice, he was given the Freemanship of the River Medway, which carries with it ancient rites and privileges. One of these he still exercises and that is his attendance at the monthly River Court and the annual Admiral of the River Court, with the cruise up and down the length of jurisdiction.

This latter assembly grants the Freemanship of the River to apprentices who complete their indentures in a river activity.

These were steamers and his world-wide activities continued with trips to Scandinavia.

While with Coasters, he married, and realized it was no life for a wife, with him away for weeks on end.

Turning to the big river the Thames he became a Lighterman, commuting from Chatham daily, according to shifts he sometimes caught the 3:00am train to London, and other days the 4:00am out. He remained a Lighterman for a period of 32 years and worked on the Thames up to Brentford all that time except for a 3 year period when he was in the Navy during the War years.

In 1969, the P.L.A, who controlled all river work, started a reorganisation, and at 62 years of age Jack felt he had had enough of the river life and retired. But such is his nature that he cannot be still for long and he came to the Company as a Labourer in the Central Machine Shop, where he is still employed.

A man of great interest in the welfare of his fellowmen, he has been involved in many charitable efforts. Both within the works and outside. Inside the works, he was one of those responsible for raising funds for the guide dog for a colleague who is blind. Money for childrens wards at East Grinstead has also been raised by Jack.

His latest effort of note, was on behalf of the Wisdom Hospice project, when he grew a beard under sponsorship, and raised upwards of £301. Our picture show the before and after result.



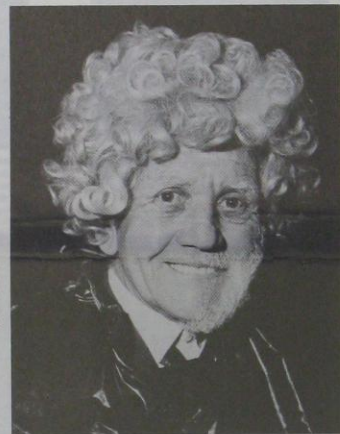
The result - and £300 for the effort!



Jack hands over the cheque, clean shaven and happy.



The Indentures of Jack Hetterley.



Before the great shave off.

His father was also a freeman of the City of Rochester and, by virtue of his birth, he also became in due time a Freeman of the City and it is with pride that he wears the Rochester badge. As a Freeman of the River, he is called upon from time to time to act as Water Bailiff, to prevent poaching.



Jack Hetterley proudly wearing his Rochester badge.

On completing his apprenticeship, his mind turned to the wider world, eventually he signed up in the Merchant Navy, with the Orient Line, which took him all around the world. He rose from deckhand to be an AB in the M.N. Following his work as a deep sea man he became Mate of a sailing barge, out of Chatham, he then joined Coasters.



The demon barber begins his work.

Widely travelled, besides his work as a seaman, he has visited the USA eight times in the past 12 years on holiday, regular short trips across the North Sea to Scandinavia, as well as driving his motor car around the countryside.

Now a widower, he has two married daughters and three grand-daughters to keep him under some control. One of his grand-daughters is with the Company in FCD. His mind is alert, and he can tell a story with engaging conviction, born of self assurance, interest and honesty of purpose.

He tells us he always wears his Rochester blazer when travelling abroad. An ambassador of goodwill and a patriot.

WE WANT YOUR SUGGESTIONS !!

The committee look forward to receiving your suggestions. If you have an idea to improve our products, assist production, eliminate waste of any kind, simplify work or enhance safety we would welcome knowledge of it.

Forms for submitting suggestions are to be found in boxes around the Works. Should anyone have any difficulty or require advice, would they please contact John Neate of Personnel Department (int. 203 ext. 447).

- The committee is:
- J. A. G. Casey, Chairman, AS&R
 - J. Neate, Secretary, Personnel
 - B. T. Box, Ass. Production Manager, IND.
 - A. G. Gooch, Tester, ADD.
 - F. T. Mackley, Engineering Manager, ISD.
 - T. A. Morgan, QA Manager, PSD.
 - T. B. Osby, Model Shop, FCD.
 - T. S. Smith, Production Manager, ATE.
 - H. R. Staff, Safety and Site Security Manager

The latest award winner is Mr. A. A. Smith, ATE Division, for a suggestion concerning 'fan failures in compact ATE.'

GEC - BUPA scheme

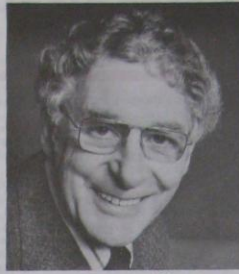
Over 12000 employees joined the GEC - BUPA group scheme, launched 1 November 1979, and many more are still waiting to join. We are therefore pleased to inform you that BUPA has agreed to an interim joining date of 1 May 1980. For employees to take advantage of the reduced rates negotiated between BUPA and GEC.

Your contact at Marconi Avionics, Rochester, is John Neate, Personnel Department (int. 203, ext. 447).

NAMES TO FACES

Our selection this month, for this feature, is the Reprographic Department.

Under the management of Sid Clayton, this service department is used by all sections of the Company. Its scope and capability is extremely varied, and no one can ask 'too much' of these willing people.



Sid Clayton, the Departmental Manager.



Maureen Hurst, Secretary to Sid Clayton, has been with the Company for 5 years after a period serving in the temporary pool. She likes needlework and gardening.



Cllr Cope, Se with the Com worked in (under Bob Room staff, wide range western mus



Linda Jones - Photographer. An employee of 2 years standing, she has a fully active and attractive personality. Prior to joining the Company, she was engaged in fine art Photography, but prefers our variety. A dressmaker of considerable skill, keep fit enthusiast, yoga practitioner, painting and drawing and all art forms interest her.



Lily Healey, Microfilm Mounter, has worked here for 14 years and has wide interests outside work, among which she says gardening, interior decorating, reading, music (light classical) and knitting are foremost.



Denise Arnold - Microfilm Assistant. A younger member of the team, of 1½ years duration. Her mother is in MASD as a Section Leader on the Shop Floor. Her interest are swimming, reading and walking.



Janice Campbell - Micro 1st year as an employe Microfilm Bureau. Her playing squash, reading t



Helen Howard, Microfilm Operator, for 3½ years. A scot with a zest for life. She delights in happiness and making others happy.



Ann Bourke, Xerox Operator, with 7 years service. She uses her spare time dressmaking and dancing and holiday travel.



Sylvia Hales, Xerox Operator, of 12 years standing. Her general demeanour helps her to enjoy music, walking, reading and dancing.



Bruce Coe, Stationary E has been with the Compit formerly a hardware sho enjoys DIY but also hi selling.



Freda Morton, Dye-line Machine Operator, has been with the Company for 5½ years. When not producing one of the many thousands of 'prints', she enjoys knitting and reading.



Joan Haddell - Dye-line Operator. She has given 6 years' service and her relaxation covers dancing and reading.



Francey Gaton, Reprographic Assistant, is in her 1st year with the Company. She was formerly with a Finance Company as a receptionist, but prefers the variety of work she performs here. She also is a swimming, reading and walking enthusiast.



Section Leader—Reception, has been with the Company for 22½ years and previously worked in the R&R Dept. Stove Enamelling (Black) before joining the Print Dept. Her out of work activities cover a wide range including crocheting, gardening, country and travel.



Alice Stone, Departmental Receptionist, has spent a total of 5 years with the Company. Her hobbies include knitting, gardening and dancing.



Alan Keats, Section Leader, Photographic Section. Alan joined the Company 3 years ago and leads the team which supplies most of the photographs used in the M&V News. Out of work activities, when not visiting his 'local', cover football, DIY, reading and also hobby photography!



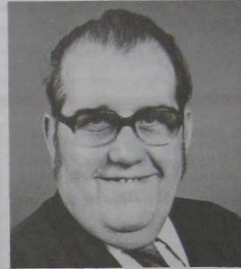
Susan Ruddlesden—Photographer. One of the three members of her family in the Company, with whom she has been with for 4 years. Her mother works in Fisher Valves and father is in AS&R. Her hobbies she prefers to keep to herself, but we can say she is an ardent motor-cyclist!



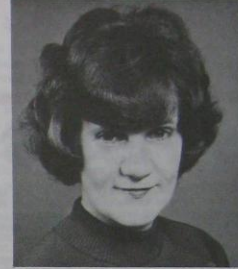
Microfilm Assistant. In her spare time, after 5 years with a full-time job, off-duty activities are mainly reading and knitting.



Peggy Davies, Microfilm operator (16 m/m), has served the Company for 11½ years and enjoys life to the full, and to add to her pleasure, after a day's work she turns to gardening, knitting, embroidery and doing jig-saw puzzles!



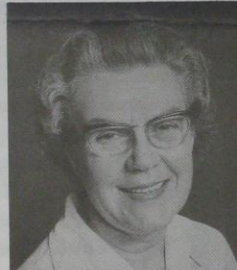
Percy Trim, an employee for 11 years, is Section Leader of Microfilm Section. His hobbies include collecting coins and a delight in watching ships passing to and fro. He spends much time looking through his binoculars as the vessels travel up and down the Channel.



Joy Faupel, 16 m/m Microfilm Operator, has been with the Company for 6 years and her interests are swimming, gardening (growing her own plants from seed) and accompanying her husband to air shows and demonstrations.



Dept. Stock Controller. In his spare time, after just over 1 year with the Company as an owner, he naturally finds a special delight in...



Phyllis Ford, Section Leader of Xerox Section. Has completed 12 years service with the Company and has many interests including reading, music, needlework and dressmaking, gardening, decorating, DIY, old time dancing and walking 'being busy keeps one happy' she says.



Irene Rogers—Reprographic Assistant. Her period of employment totals 10 years and though a mother of three daughters and one son, with four grandchildren she still manages to enjoy from time-to-time, gardening, decorating, music, cookery, knitting, sewing and reading.



Frances Gould, Reprographic Assistant, with 2 years' service and she enjoys swimming, playing squash and travelling.



Dot Seath delivers and collects documents for and after printing.



Kay Chester is the Departmental Cleaner.



Sheila Somersat, Xerox Operator, with 6 years service to her credit. Her activities include organizing and committee work, reading and country and western music.

RETIREMENT

The ever changing scene keeps us in a condition of wonder, what will happen now? Is the question posed when the 'old established order is abruptly altered.

Such may be the reaction, as it is realized that one of the best known persons on the Rochester site has retired. We shall not be seeing Mrs. Toni Fisher among us, for she bid farewell on 28 March after some 19 years' service.

Joining the Company, in July 1961 as Sister-in-charge of the Surgery, she became a Personnel Officer in May 1962, and in 1970 became Welfare Officer.

She also devoted much of her own time to help the Sports and Social Club, and was one of the founders of the BS Club, which she regularly attended, taking responsibility for many jobs connected with it.

In retirement, she is moving to Lancashire to be among relatives and friends. The members of the Personnel Dept, together with many personal friends arranged a farewell party at the club-house at which a cheque was presented to mark the occasion. Our best wishes for a happy and long retirement go with her into her new surroundings.

Changes came, and she went into the kitchen, later on taking on duties of waitress in the senior staff room, then for Directors and Management.

Her hobbies are gardening, walking and good reading. The walking is done whilst holidaying in her beloved Wales, where she goes so as to keep up with Welsh life.

Mr. E. J. Bradley presented her with a clock to mark the occasion, in a ceremony held in the presence of her many colleagues.

AN ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

8 Athelstan Road
Chatham

My Dear Marconi Friends,

Thank you all very much for the gift you gave me on the occasion of my retirement. In case you haven't heard what you gave (and it does happen sometimes) it was a cheque, which is earmarked for a Coloured Television. Once installed in my new house in Lancashire it will be a constant reminder of my friends.

In spite of spending my last two days going around everywhere in the factory (as I thought) I now realise just how many friends I failed to say goodbye to. I do hope if you happen to be one that you will accept my apologies.

Thank you all for the help and kindness I have received whilst working at Rochester and with my best wishes to you all.

Yours sincerely
Toni Fisher



Mrs. Toni Fisher (A)

25 YEARS' SERVICE

Serving other people has been the lot of Mrs. Gwen Boorman of the Canteen for the past 25 years. Gwen, as she is known to everyone, still retains the accent of her native Wales and came to Elliotts in 1954. She was employed to serve teas in the main hall, and remembers taking teas to Mr. Leon Bagrit (as he was then) and Mr. Hurlfeld.

Changes came, and she went into the kitchen, later on taking on duties of waitress in the senior staff room, then for Directors and Management.

Her hobbies are gardening, walking and good reading. The walking is done whilst holidaying in her beloved Wales, where she goes so as to keep up with Welsh life.

Mr. E. J. Bradley presented her with a clock to mark the occasion, in a ceremony held in the presence of her many colleagues.



Gwen Boorman smiles as John Bradley presents her with a clock to mark 25 years' service. (B)

Our first husband and wife team celebrated 25 years' service with the Company recently, within weeks of each other.

Mike Doran writes

"On leaving Snodland School, my first job was with Tilling Stevens at Maidstone where I started in the Tool Room. I stayed with them for about 10 years except for 3 1/2 years which were spent in the Army."

Then I applied to Elliott Bros. and got a job in the Tool Room where I stayed for approximately 1 year. After which I went into the Aviation Jig and Tool Drawing Office for about 2 years. Then I went to the Jig and Tool Office in MER Division which eventually merged with IN where I stayed until I went to work as a Section Leader in TAC and stayed until the merger with MAC, which in time became FCD.

2 years ago I went to work in ATE as Chief Draughtsman. My hobbies are old cars, old ladies, wine making, gardening, all home improvements, in fact I am interested in most things."

He received a pair of binoculars to mark his 25 years' service.

Heather Doran tells us that

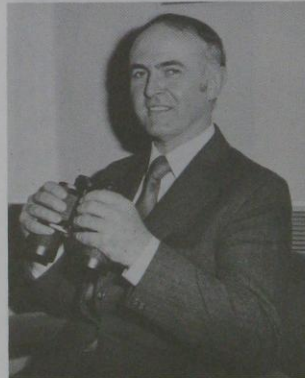
"After leaving Richmond Road School, Gillingham, I went to work for the Singer Sewing Machine Company and stayed 4 years. Customers kept on telling me of this wonderful factory which was up at the Airport, so I decided it was worth investigating (It was Elliott Bros.)."

On joining the Company, my first job was in Radio and Radar Division, training to solder wires on boards. After a couple of months the contract was cancelled and I was offered alternative employment which was in MER Division as a Tool Records Clerk which was to do with a contract called Red



Right: Heather Doran with Mr. Jackson. (A)

Below: Mike Doran about to take his first look through the binoculars. (B)



Indian (haven't a clue what it was though but I expect some one remembers). Incidentally this was where I met Mike (he was in the Tool Room at the time). I remained until I married in 1958 then requested for a transfer to another Division as it was preferable for husband and wife not to work in the same office. By this time Mike had joined MER Drawing Office.

The next Division was MAC where I was a clerk in the Purchase Office working with the late Charles Berry. Eventually this Division became FCD. Meanwhile I had been going to night school to learn typing and eventually went to work in the Technical Publications Department as a clerk typist, where I still remain but in the capacity of a Word Processor Operator.

My hobbies when I find time, are dressmaking and gardening."

Her selected gift, a quartz carriage clock, was presented by Mr. D. I. Jackson, Assistant General Manager.

AN EARLY JOB EVALUATION?

The Provost.
The Provost must have a horse allowed him, and some soldiers to attend him, and all the rest commanded to obey him, or else the Service will suffer; for he is but one man and must correct many and therefore he cannot be beloved. And he must be riding from one Garrison, to another, to see that the soldiers do not outrage nor scathe about the country.

A Conference is a Gathering of Important People who Singly Can do Nothing, but Together Decide that Nothing can be Done

Time on your hands

What to do with ones time

(a report culled from the South Bradford Guardian and Herald)

Twenty-five years ago, a Mr. A. Harrison of Cleekeaton, Yorkshire, had time on his hands so he began looking around for something with which to fill the time. His thoughts turned to gardening and he considered growing orchids, dahlias, chrysanthemums or roses, but as some required heat, and others had received specialist treatment to a high degree of development, he sought other species. The lily was his choice as it could provide an all-year round hobby, was non-competitive and harmless and did not require special heating.

He set to work, reading, learning and experimenting, and has been quietly successful in producing many fascinating and new hybrid lilies, such as the Dalesman (described by the Royal Horticultural Society as the best Golden Tiger Lily ever produced). His plants are now exported throughout the world.

With concentration, dedication and zeal, he has been able to fill his time worthily, but also demonstrating that leisure need not be a bore, indeed can be very rewarding, for there cannot be any greater joy than "creating a thing of beauty—which can last for ever.

Waverers could well consider this, and go and do likewise.



VEAL AND HAM TERRINE

This terrine is easy to prepare and is a good alternative to the usual veal and ham pie.

Ingredients:

3/4lb pie veal	1/2lb lean bacon rashers
3/4lb lean pork	madeira wine or sherry
1 onion	salt and pepper
2 oz butter	nutmeg
2 eggs	1 bay leaf.
1/2lb cooked ham	

Method: Mince together the veal, pork and onion. Beat to blend thoroughly with softened butter and a good seasoning of salt, pepper and nutmeg. Bind the mixture with lightly beaten eggs and a little madeira wine or sherry. Cut the cooked ham into narrow strips. Line a terrine dish with lean bacon rashers, arrange over the base a layer of the veal mixture, followed by a layer of ham; continue with the layers finishing with veal. Set a bay leaf on top and cover with more bacon rashers. Cover with foil or a lid, set in a pan of hot water and bake for 2 hours at 325°F (gas mark 3). Remove from the oven, cool and cover with a weight for several hours before chilling.

DEEP FRIED CHICKEN DRUMSTICKS

The drumsticks can be served with boiled new potatoes in a French dressing and a cucumber and soured cream salad. To keep them warm, wrap in greaseproof paper and several layers of newspaper.

Ingredients:

4 chicken drumsticks
1 egg white
seasoned flour
mixed herbs
white breadcrumbs.

Method: Trim the drumsticks neatly, dip them in beaten egg-white and coat with seasoned flour, flavoured with mixed herbs, then in fresh white breadcrumbs.

Leave the coating to set, then brush the drumsticks with more egg-white and coat with another layer of breadcrumbs. Leave to set yet again, before deep frying in hot fat or oil for 15 minutes. Drain on absorbent paper.

DOWN MEMORY LANE

"You must wake and call me early, call me early,
Mother dear,

Tomorrow'll be the happiest time of all the
glad new year,

Of all the glad new-year, Mother, the maddest
merriest day,

For I'm to be Queen o' the May, mother,
I'm to be Queen o' the May"

from "May Queen" by Alfred Lord Tennyson.

May day, 1 May, what a lovely time we used to have rising early donning a 'costume' and taking ourselves off to join the merry-makers, to take part in Maypole dances, Morris dancing and Country dancing. Crowning the May Queen and proceeding all round the village, with flowers, garlands and an infectious happiness all round.

I call to mind our first village May festival for many years. It was in 1919 and towards the end of 1918 we had a new headmaster take over the village school in succession to the late headmaster who had died after some 35 years in the post.

The idea of a May festival was mooted early and we were all training for our dancing. We had no Maypole then, that was to come later.

A May Queen was required, so on returning to school after the Christmas holidays, we were taught our first lessons in democracy. We were to hold an election for our first May Queen.

We all solemnly formed up in a line and every one, who could read, was given a paper with several girls names there-on and we were ushered into a quiet corner where we made our cross against the name we preferred.

It was a runaway victory for the girl chosen as our May Queen — her name was a charming Phyllis Green and as she was my dancing partner, I had to become her 'consort' for the festival.

The day duly arrived, warm and sunny, and we rose early in the morning. We went out to various people to collect the flowers, cut fresh for the occasion, and congregated at school. What was done with those mounds of flowers and greenery was like magic. The crown — of narcissus, polyanthus and daffodils was a gem. The garland — two hoops entwined, with a centre pole — like a

huge ball of flowers. Old prams decorated, and buckets bedecked on the outside with which to make the collection en route.

We all were sent home to get prepared for the great day, the crowning was to be at 10am on the school playground. Our parents had made our costumes; blouses, long trousers, 'sloppy' hats and bells below our knees and round the ankles all added to the gaiety of the occasion.

The trumpets were blown (no fanfare was more raucous) the piano led the singing and the Queen and her maids of honour trooped out to the 'throne'. The flower crown placed solemnly upon the young head, and amid the cheering from the crowd of onlookers, the whole array of children burst into the May songs, as a prelude to the dancing.

After this initial display, when every item in our repertoire was performed, we began to move off to dance our way around the village, stopping every now and then, to perform two or three items.

Those who were not among the dancers became collectors, pram pushers, garland carriers or singers. The Queen had a 'lady' to hold her crown while dancing while two others carried her train, or fastened it on or removed it as required.

The revelry went on all day, at the 'big houses' we danced on the lawns and were given refreshments. When night-time arrived we were all so exhausted that sleep came very early and easily.

From the collections that day, we bought ourselves a Maypole, and donated the rest between the projected War Memorial Fund and the Village Hall Fund. (The Village Hall would be a memorial too).

Successively we continued year after year, adding more items to the repertoire. Some years we were 'rained off' and it had to be held as soon as the weather improved, and also from time to time it had to be held indoors, but the joyful spirit was always present.

Also times have changed, and no more does the village turn out to enjoy a May festival, the Queen of the May is not elected, the flowers are not made up into crowns and garlands, the childrens voices are not heard in song, the fun and joy has departed and the world as represented by 'our village' is the poorer.

"... the maddest merriest day is now so very different."

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

- | | |
|----------------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Paper | 12. Silk or Linen |
| 2. Cotton | 13. Lace |
| 3. Leather | 14. Ivory |
| 4. Books | 15. Crystal |
| 5. Wooden (Clocks) | 20. China |
| 6. Iron | 25. Silver |
| 7. Copper, Bronze or Brass | 30. Pearl |
| 8. Electrical Appliances | 40. Ruby |
| 9. Pottery | 50. Gold |
| 10. Tin or Aluminium | 60. Diamond |
| 11. Steel | 70. Platinum |

Bullets get red-hot in flight!

'Hot lead' is a vivid description of the gunflight of the Wild West, but 'hot guns' would be a more accurate description. Although a gun barrel gets hot in action, a bullet is cooled considerably as it passes through the air. A bullet retrieved immediately after being fired is not hot, though the force of impact may distort the lead, to give it an appearance of having melted.

What about it folks?

A PLEA FROM A MRS MOPP

I'd like to say a word or two, for us your evening cleaners,
'cos some of you walk past, and look as if you haven't seen us.

We are quite normal people, just plain housewives and mothers,

who if it were not for our kids, would work same as you others.

We don't want conversations, a smile would suffice,

or on the odd occasion, hello would be quite nice!

There are of course some nice folk, who pass the time of day.

but its the others who annoy us, the ones who look away!

So when you see your night cleaner, please greet her with a grin.

'cos its her whose made the floor nice for when you next come in.

There are so many of us, theres no room for us to sign,
not only that we work so hard, we just can't spare the time!!!

Mrs. B. of CAC and colleagues



Sports and social club round up

BAT AND TRAP

At the close of the 'Bat and Trap' season, the successful teams received their trophies. These were presented by Bert Snowell (Fisher) the Chairman of the Club.



Winners - AS&R team. (A)



Ron Masters, Captain of AS&R, with the trophy. (A)



ISD team. (A)



Eric Allchin (Referee) and Bob Robinson (Referee). (A)



Fisher Team. (A)

RUGBY UNION FOOTBALL

The creation of a Rugby Union Football Club, within the Sports and Social Club, has taken a step nearer to fruition. A group of enthusiasts within the Company took advantage of the glorious spring weather to organize themselves into a team and fixed up an encounter with the 1st XV of the United Services of Chatham.

Well supported by many adherents, the game took place at the Garrison Sports Stadium, Old Brompton. The team representing Marconi Avionics was composed of members of the various divisions, and though beaten by 22 points to 10, were not in any way disgraced, especially when we realize this was an 'ad hoc' venture.

This should ensure a great future for a Rugby Club attached to the Company giving an opportunity to other established or novitiate players to join in.

Other matches are in the process of being finalized, before the 1979/80 season closes and preparations are being made for the creation of a bona fide section of the Club.

For the very successful start to the venture thanks are due to Lt Com's Dean and Ridland for their help in arranging the fixture and loaning equipment and to Mr. W.H. Alexander for giving the project his patronage.

All information can be obtained from any of the following, and any possible players are invited to get in touch so soon as possible:

V. Fisher (FCD Purchasing), M. Coleman (ISD), C. Elliott (FCD), J. Landers (PSD), J. Rowe (AS&RD), G. Cordier (MASD), R. Webb (ATE), D. Morant (ATEI).



The game in progress (United Services in stripes).



Proposed emblem for the Club.



United Services are held.

Aladdin

The annual Pentomime, produced and performed by the Management Committee of the Social Club, has again successfully entertained some 2500 Senior Citizens during six performances.

Details and pictures will appear in a later issue. For 1980, a new departure was tried, in that the show was performed for the general public in aid of charity, for one special night.

This was held on 31 March and was a great success. The audience had an opportunity to laugh with their colleagues and were able to vote it a 'roaring success'.

The result of this effort, on behalf of the proposed Medway Wisdom Hospice, is a further donation of some £400 plus.

Throughout the past few months, the Club and its members have been instrumental in raising nearly £2000 for the Save Medway Hospital Fund and Wisdom Hospice.

Fete Day

Saturday 21 June 1980
Featherby Road, Gillingham
commencing 2:00pm

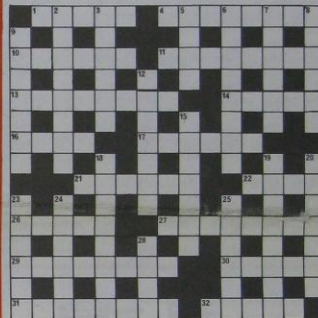
EVENTS:

- Works band - entertaining during the afternoon
- Fancy dress - parade and competition
- Races - all kinds, including children
- Displays - German shepherd dogs
- Rangerettes from Rainham
- North West Kent Corps of Drums
- MINI CIRCUS - 3:00pm - 4:00pm

Special additional attraction
Bring and Buy Sale - proceeds for Wisdom Hospice
This will begin at 3:00pm
Item for sale will be received at the canteen from
14-19 JUNE (both dates inclusive)

Your support on this day will be welcomed
Book in your diary now

CROSSWORD No. 24



ACROSS

1. High jump, with a pole (5)
4. An artist who gave us lions (8)
10. The last one, perhaps a place (6)
11. The thing makes perfect, but not a professional man (8)
13. A Jewish feast, at Easter? (8)
14. The news after midday (2,3)
16. A prince in opera, borrowed in? (4)
17. Relates the story, announces the poll (6)
21. The 'Crossroads' dwelling (6)
22. Reply not being away (4)
26. Musically desires to be called (5)
27. A single Column, agile insect (8)
29. Sometimes called zeal, or dedication sharply (8)
30. Remote, as a star (anagram) (6)
31. To be kept separate (8)
32. Scotch perhaps, but not hard stuff (5)

DOWN

2. He values things, not accidental (8)
- 3 & 18. He usually owned the place, was looked up to (4,2,3,5)
5. The glow around, not fauna (4)
6. Probably spoken on disc (8)
7. Jess Griffiths, may be (6)
8. Hauls in the sails, in jacket (6)
9. Mysterious and hidden, a clue? (7)
12. A roof after a real man (7)
15. Joy revealed without the parson (7)
18. See 3 down - a 'patch' for the fuzz (8)
19. A salvationists tryingest seat (8)
20. Ties it up, like a goat (7)
23. The old steam train engine (6)
24. Snakes and computers (6)
25. Not at any price, bravely (2,4)
28. Girl's name, it appears (4)

For amusement only

SOLUTION TO CROSSWORD NO 23

Across

1. Fly customer, 9. Heady, 10. Armadillo, 11. Poop, 12. Yale, 13. Least, 15. Nutcase, 16. Traipse, 17. Cadgers, 19. Sharbat, 21. Aine, 23. Tied, 24. Alto, 25. Gramplains, 27. Dhoib, 28. Forerunners.

Down

1. Flat out, 2. vovo, 3. Unaware, 4. Tempest, 5. Middle aged, 6. Release, 7. Chop and Change, 8. Don't mention it, 14. Game keeper, 18. Set fair, 19. Stetson, 20. Billows, 22. Staff, 25. Iole.

Photographs taken by Staff Photographers will be acknowledged in the following way: (A) Alan Kase, (B) Susan Buddabrain (C) Linda Jones (D) Bill Cuddy

The views and opinions expressed by contributors are not necessarily those of the Editor or Company. Any such opinion or comment are those of the contributor alone, and are printed solely as a matter of interest.
Produced by the Publicity Dept. GEC Machines Limited, Bradford for Marconi Avionics Limited, Kent