

# MARCONI AVIONICS NEWS

House Journal of Marconi Avionics Limited

★ ★ MOTTO FOR THE MONTH ★ ★  
 'Speak well of your friend, of your enemy say nothing.'

## A 1981 NEW YEAR MESSAGE



This has been a difficult year for us at Rochester but we have come through it very well. Many major projects were in the early stages of production with all the special demands which this entails and at the same time we were critically short of space. The new production work

included all the systems for the Tornado IDS, the Nimrod Mk II sonics and central tactical system, the F16 head-up display and the Cobra air data system. We have now acquired a further 137,000ft<sup>2</sup> of space in the new Phase III building and the factory we have acquired from Thorns, and this now brings our total space to over 1/2 million ft<sup>2</sup> to house our total population of nearly 6,000. Not only will this give us enough space to operate efficiently but it will also allow us to have most of our activities in the right place. A start has been made on the new building at Nailsea and we are looking forward to our two youngest businesses in North Sea oil and power supplies blossoming in the West Country.

Whilst contending with these difficulties on current production work, we have not failed to keep up the progress in new technology. This is vital to ensure our success in obtaining new orders and our ability to compete in the United States market was demonstrated once again with our winning of the contract for the LANTIRN head-up display.

The successes of this year, the new contracts, the new designs completed and put into production and deliveries keeping pace with our customers needs, have not been achieved without considerable support from some of the less glamorous of our activities. Among these we have to thank Personnel, Training, Canteen, Works Engineering, Transport, Accounts, EDP and Company Aircraft. We have also continued to develop better ways of supporting the ultimate user of our equipment and we must not forget that without this vital service the customer is not likely to come back for more.

With our present order book we can look forward to a busy 1981 and I wish you all a very happy year.

W.H. Alexander  
 Assistant Managing Director



Happy New Year  
 Jim  
 from you know who!

## Staff Ellis is awarded the Royal Aeronautical Society Bronze Medal

The Company Design Consultant of Rochester's Marconi Avionics Limited, Stafford Ellis, who lives in East Preston, has been awarded the much-prized Bronze Medal of the Royal Aeronautical Society. The Medal, now presented annually for work leading to an advance in aeronautics, was presented by the President of the Society, Mr. Peter Hearne, FRAEs, on the occasion of the 69th annual Wilbur and Orville Wright Memorial lecture, at Hamilton Place, London.

Staff Ellis, whose 40 years in Britain's aerospace industry has resulted in over 30 patents, has been directly responsible for many highly-successful and original designs of avionics equipment, notably those which have made big contributions to exports. A few examples are the optical and mechanical aspects of pilots' head-up displays, if the production of which Britain leads the world, the electro-hydraulic and other aspects of automatic flight control and precise inertial navigation systems.

The Bronze Medal has been awarded regularly since 1949 to distinguished engineers and designers but was first given in 1908. The following year, its recipient was the famous Dr. F. W. Lanchester whose brilliant work ranged from flight dynamics to the design of the very successful motor car which bore his name.

Stafford Malcolm Ellis was born in Melbourne, Australia, in April 1917 and was educated at South Melbourne Technical College. He came to England in 1938 and worked with the Handley Page and Napier (Aero Engines) companies, before joining his present company in 1949.

For a time he managed the Company's Flight Automation Research Laboratory, doing original work in 'fail-safe' aircraft control systems. This culminated in the design of an actuator, which was later adopted for the European TORNADO aircraft, as part of its very advanced 'fly-by-wire' control system.

Since 1965, his work in head-up displays, which present to a pilot, in his forward view, an image of symbols representing all the important instrument readings he needs, yielded the systems chosen in large numbers for the Vought A-7 and General Dynamics F-16 aircraft. He also played a leading role in the design work which led to the winning of the US Air Force order recently, for a new design of 'holographic' head-up display for safer flying at night. With production options, this order is worth over \$100 million.

Staff Ellis and his wife, Thelma, moved from the Maidstone area to East Preston, in West Sussex just over three years ago.



Stafford Ellis (right) receiving his Bronze Medal from Mr. P. Hearne.

## TECHNICIAN FINALISTS 1980

Friday, 9 January sees the end of a long trail for Margaret, Mark, Martin and Chris. On that day they will be competing in the final heat of TECCOM—the technician competition sponsored by the Engineering Industry Training Board and held at the Institute of Mechanical Engineers in London.

The journey started last March when Margaret Spells, Mark Jenkins, Martin Kirby and Chris Wink—all third year technician trainees—were selected by the Training Department to represent the Company. Since then they have spent three months in COD working on a project to design and build a computer-controlled set of equipment which would test hybrid components more speedily and reliably than the previous manual system. Although the team's background was diverse—and their mix of experience certainly helped—none had been deeply involved in computing which was a significant feature of their assignment. Another important factor was that the team was required to manage itself, regarding COD as its customer rather than its supervisor and although this was at times a frustrating process it was one from which much learning was derived. They learnt what it was like when the buck stopped.....with them!!

By mid July, the technical task completed, the team turned its mind to relaxation and holidays in the South of France or Spain and return to their divisions to complete their training. Thoughts

of writing a report on their technical and managerial performance were not closest to the hearts of our technical aces. But with gritted teeth and a bit of clever scheduling of time over the holiday period the report was created and a presentation written and released.

Their trepidation and anxiety did not show through their polished performance when they won the south-east regional heat at Croydon in October, still less when they triumphed at the southern heat at the Independent Broadcasting Authority HQ at Winchester in November.

Whichever team is victorious at the final, all can be assured of the most valuable of prizes—knowledge and experience which is unlikely to have come their way until later in their careers. Our team, particularly, will take with it knowledge of computers and such concepts as understanding and interpreting a customer's specification, allocating resources, meeting target dates, procurement lead times, clear specification of sub-contract work, getting it right first time.....all so important in our business.

Friday, 9 January will be something of a GEC and GEC Marconi affair. Marconi Space and Defence is also competing and Lord Weinstock is awarding the prizes. We can be assured of an exciting finale.

### STOP PRESS

The final of the all-England competition took place on Friday 9 January, 1981, at the Institute of Mechanical Engineers, London, and the Marconi Avionics team secured first place.

TECCOM team (from left to right): Mark Jenkins, Martin Kirby, Margaret Spells, Christopher Wink.



**NOTICE**  
 If any employee has a relative (young person) who desires to take up an apprenticeship with the Company, application should be made immediately. No guarantee can be given, but favourable consideration is given to all family applicants.

www.rochesteravionicarchives.co.uk

Marconi Avionic News  
Editorial Office  
Mezzanine Floor  
Tower 1  
Airport Works  
Rochester, Kent

Editor - Jess Griffiths

Liaison Officers:

Lynn Roberts, Atlanta, USA  
Gerry Rich, Nailsea

S. Alliman, Accounts  
Graeme White-Winchester, AS & R (Flying School)  
Sid Golding, CAC/CD  
Fergus Maloney, FARL (New Road)  
John Garstin, JIV  
D.J. Roberts, CMS  
Rod Cole, MASD  
Dave Lucas, ADD  
Barry Wallington, Apprentice School  
Colin Matthews, PSD

Others are required for: AS & R (New Road), ATE,  
CQD, GYRO, ISD, RAS.

Volunteers should offer their services through Divisional Administration Officers or direct to Editor.



## OBITUARY

We have learned of the death of Jack Fenn-Clark, for many years he was the Establishment Security Officer. He had been retired for a number of years, but many people will remember him. His death occurred in November and we print the tribute paid to him by the St. Stephen's Parish Magazine:

*The death of Jack Fenn-Clark marked the end of a ten year illness involving considerable physical suffering and all the frustrations of coming to terms with decreasing capabilities. For a man as active and involved in everything around him as Jack has been, this is particularly difficult. His lack of complaint sprang from his deep Christian faith, and from his very special relationship with his wife. He was a great servant of St. Stephens in his active days, when he was not away in the Royal Navy, and continued to take an interest during his illness.*

We regret to record the sudden death of Colwyn Stone—he had been in indifferent health for some time. Colwyn was a well-known and well-loved figure around the Works, where he had been employed since 1959.

His career with the Company began on 12 October as head of the auto-pilot team in MAC later changing to Chief Engineer military auto-pilot. In 1962 on 12 August he was appointed Chief Systems Engineer MAC and on 7 September 1964 he transferred to AEID as Chief Engineer. November 1966 he joined the EFA team as Systems Engineer and in March 1971 became Staff Engineer of EFA until October 1971 when he moved down to New Road as Staff Engineer, FARL. In 1978 he came back to the main Works as a consultant in MAV, this position he held until his death.

His activities covered a wide field, but he was particularly fond of sailing and took part in the annual competitions between members of the Marconi Sailing Club and the Elliott (Marconi Avionics) Sailing Club, Rochester. He was the link man between the two clubs, and was responsible for the arrangements of the Rochester contingent. His son, carries on his love of boats and sailing.

We offer our sincere sympathy to his widow and family in their loss.

It is with regret that we announce the death of Neil Maddison, which occurred recently. A member of CMS he had been with us for a comparatively short time, but in that time he had endeared himself to all who worked with him. He was formerly with Wingats at Strood, before joining the Company.

We express our sympathy on behalf of the Division and of ourselves to the family.

## Doublets Competition

### RESULTS

There was a very poor response to this competition—in fact here was not one female entry.

The winners were:

1st prize £5—A. J. Thorpe, Tester, IN Division—with a total of 53 changes for the seven doublets.

2nd prize £3—R. L. Knight, IND Engineering—with a total of 79 changes for the seven doublets.



## BLOOD DONORS

The Blood Transfusion Service have recently visited the Works and through the kind permission of the Management, co-operation of the Surgery Staff and the generous voluntary gift of blood by the donors, they were able to obtain a total of 527 units of blood.

Disappointingly, this was less than that given at the previous visit, but nevertheless very gratefully and thankfully received. We have received thanks from the officers of the Blood Transfusion Service, for this generous supply.

Those of us who have been in need of blood or in hospital and seen the use of it know how valuable it is to have a good supply of blood available.

There will be a further opportunity for the usual donors, together with new ones to assist in this cause during the weeks commencing 23 March and 12 October 1981.

## EXTENDING SERVICES TO EMPLOYEES

### Barclays bring in more services

Starting Wednesday, 7 January 1981 and every following Wednesday, Barclays Bank will have a representative, David Wagstaff, available between the hours of 1.00pm and 4.00pm to discuss their full range of services which, of course, include cheque accounts, savings accounts (including their new interesting savings schemes) personal loans and home mortgages, to mention a few.

If you wish to discuss any of these with Mr. Wagstaff, or seek financial advice from him, appointments can be made through the Personnel Department, Mrs. Christine Carter (ext. 64 int. 203). This facility is not restricted to Barclays customers; all are welcome.

We look forward to seeing you, in confidence, in the Personnel Department, where David Wagstaff will be in attendance.

## Double-glazing offer

In these difficult days of material shortages and economic crises, it is prudent to take all practical steps to reduce ones outgoings.

One such method is to have windows and doors double-glazed thus saving energy and cost of supply. Many people find it advantageous too, to change existing windows for the modern aluminium double-glazed ones thereby saving the time and expense of painting.

We have been able to negotiate a special Marconi discount for any employees who would like to avail themselves of the services and products of Sahara Windows. Quite a number of employees have already done so, with favourable results. Sahara are only one of many such companies offering their services in this manner. They are not the cheapest, nor for that matter the most expensive, but they claim to give a product and workmanship of which any one could be proud.

To obtain the Marconi special discount, please mention Marconi Avionic News when applying for a quotation; all enquiries should be sent direct to Sahara.

When it comes to windows, consider the best . . .

## Marriage

Congratulations to Desmond Waters, CMS, who was married to Miss Debbie Taylor of Chatham at St. John's Church, Chatham, on 13 November.

The Division and many friends wish them a long and happy married life—and trust that the 13th will indeed prove 'lucky'.

Miss Linda Provins became Mrs Boardman on 22 November at St Helens, Cliffe. Linda works within PSD Stock Control and husband Martin is currently an apprentice with MASD.

Mr. Tony Fordham married Miss Christine Nunn on 29 November at St. Williams Church, Walderslade. Tony works within PSD Engineering. The couple honeymooned in Cambridge and are now living in Turbary Avenue, Chatham.

## Births

Double congratulations from all friends within PSD to Mr. and Mrs. Paul Lloyd and Mr. and Mrs. Christopher Humphries. Paul and Marilyn Lloyd became proud parents for the first time when Nicholas Iain was weighed in at 7lb 13oz on 14 November. Chris and Ann Humphries now have a baby sister, named Kay Victoria for James their two-year old son.

## Kitchen Kapers

### DOVER SOLE (GRILLED)

(8 portions)

Ingredients: 8 soles  
6oz melted butter  
seasoned flour  
garnish: parsley butter, lemon slices

The favourite method in Britain with the aristocratic sole is possibly plainly grilled; small soles, also known as slips, with an average weight of 6-8oz may be treated similarly or garnished with whipped cream instead of parsley butter.

Method: Clean and gut the soles and remove the skin from the upper dark side. Wash and dry thoroughly. Coat the soles in seasoned flour and brush with melted butter. Grill under moderate heat for about 6-10 minutes, depending on size, turning once and baste with butter. Serve garnished with lemon slices and parsley butter.

Sole is available all the year round, but is very plentiful until the end of March.

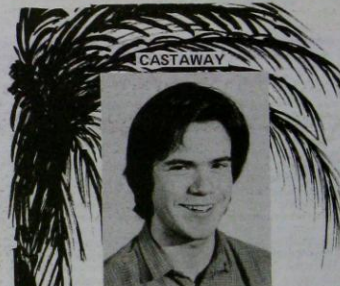
### SUSSEX POND PUDDING

(6-8 portions)

Ingredients: 8oz self raising flour—sieved  
4oz fresh white breadcrumbs  
8oz butcher's suet—grated  
pinch salt  
equal quantities of milk and water—to mix  
currants—handful  
6oz butter  
6oz dark brown sugar  
grated lemon rind—1 lemon

Method: Mix flour, breadcrumbs, suet and salt with the milk and water. Divide the mixture in two parts (2/3 and 1/3). Roll each piece into fairly thick rounds. Press a few currants into the back of the round (for decoration when turned out). Line a pudding basin or use a well floured cloth. Mix the butter, sugar and lemon rind together and put into the middle of the suet crust with approximately 3 tablespoons of currants. Gather the edges of the suet crust and enclose a butter ball securely by covering the join with the second round of crust. If using a basin, cover and tie with foil and boil for about 2 hours. If a cloth is used tie firmly.

This recipe comes from Michelham Priory, Upper Dicker, Nr. Hailsham, Sussex.



An apprentice, Dave Salter, contributes his choices this month. Together with last month's victim we learn how the younger members think—strangely similar but different. Dave is in his first year.

### MUSIC

96' In The Shade by Third World—I chose this record because it is a very 'tropical' sound. It is also very relaxing. For me it conjures scenes of a sunset in the Caribbean after an enjoyable day.

Sky 2 by Sky—this record is included because I am very interested in all types of music. It is a blend of classical style music mixed with good rock music (of a sort).

Monty Python Live at Drury Lane—this record is to cheer me up! The 'team' are really funny, and I can listen to this record and be reminded of this country. I don't know why, but this record reminds me of England.

Dark Side Of The Moon by Pink Floyd—this is included to remind me of people and of the hustle and bustle of life.

War Of The Worlds—I think of what could happen! Invasion from outer space.

Albatross by Fleetwood Mac—the albatross is, by nature, a lonely bird. I think that, when I hear this record, I would think I'm not the only 'lonely' creature on this earth.

### BOOKS

Lord Of The Rings by J.R.R. Tolkien—this book is about a fictitious land called middle-earth, and about wizards, hobbits, dwarves and the like. I like this book because in it I can escape from reality.

Robinson Crusoe by Daniel Defoe—well, I've got to get inspiration from somewhere!

The Focal Encyclopedia—I'm very interested in photography so I would like to memorise this book. I would not be able to take better pictures, but it's very long so it will give me something absolutely pointless to do!

# Around the Divisions

## ATE

It is with great satisfaction that we can report the delivery, installation and acceptance of the first Nimrod Mk 2 automatic test system at Royal Air Force Kinloss. It is particularly encouraging that the timescale for this event has slipped very little over the past few months.

The Divisional Manager offers his personal thanks and congratulations to all who have worked so hard to achieve this very important milestone.

This is the first of a long series of important events which will lead to the conclusion of this project. Having now delivered the first ATE, the Royal Air Force are awaiting deliveries of test programs and adaptors so that the equipment can be put to use testing the LRUs from the Nimrod Mk 2 anti-submarine warfare aircraft. This will result in an even greater pressure upon the test programming staff and those who support their activities. It is this area which is now critical to our success and which in turn will determine our future success in the market place. We look forward to achieving many more such milestones on time in the future.

## ISD

During the past year there have been a number of organizational changes within ISD following the departure of Chris Frost along with the Subsea Oilfield Completions team to Nalaisea to set up a new division. Ray Reese has returned to ISD as Divisional Manager and Peter Hewlett is now Commercial Manager, replacing David Reeves who has joined Marconi Avionics Projects Limited.

In production, John Clover has been promoted to Deputy Production Manager under Stan Wells and is building up a strong Production Engineering team to cope with the increasingly complex systems being produced.

Martin Foley has transferred to ADD and Pat Case (Assistant Production Manager) has temporarily assumed his duties, while the Manufacturing Shop has been reorganized under Fred Wickham (Superintendent) and Trevor Heyworth (Chief of Test). Two new systems have reached full production and currently air data systems are being delivered to Bell for the Cobra Helicopter at over 25 per month while the stores management system rate for Tornado is being built up to seven sets per month. Meanwhile deliveries of air data systems for Jaguar, Nimrod and C-5A, and triplex transducer units for Tornado continue at high rates.

The Engineering Department under John Colston still has considerable work to do on further development of the Tornado SMS and versions of our microprocessor air data computer have been sold to two foreign Air Forces. In association with MAV Atlanta development of the automatic map reader has continued with tremendous customer interest in both the USA and Germany.

The opening of the Phase III building is now allowing the Division to expand into two further floors of the Towers and to vacate the Portakabins, thus generally improving communications and working conditions, and allowing the planned expansion of the Production Department to cope with the orders in hand.

Substantial capital investment has been made or is authorized. Engineering have acquired a GEC 4070 computer for development work and the computer aided design system is being expanded. In Production two fully automated transducer test stations have been brought on line and operate 24 hours per day seven days per week. The Marconi instruments automatic inspection machine is fully operative and further additions are planned. An ICL computer terminal has been installed and commissioning of a computer stock control system is in hand. The current computerized production control system (PAT) will be extended by use of this terminal to inject data directly from the drawing office. ISD is acting as 'Guinea Pig Division' in developing these systems with the assistance of the Central Production Services, for eventual adoption Company wide.

The Q.A. Department under John France is streamlining procedures to cope with the increased workload, and investigating methods of improving shop floor participation in quality improvement. The Department is expanding the service it offers in component selection, reliability prediction and testing. The Barometric Standards Laboratory is offering a service to an increasing number of divisions and has recently been involved in the introduction of a new range of solid state barometric gauges. Ted 'Capsule' Collins has retired after 20 years with the Company.

The Commercial Department is also investigating ways of automating more of the administrative processes through the computer terminal. In short the Division faces the future confident that it will have the products to sell and the organization capable of producing them efficiently.

## Marconi Avionics 'HELI-TELE'

### for Metropolitan Police Helicopters

New home order for export-winning system

London's Metropolitan Police force, the largest in the United Kingdom, is to put into service the Marconi Avionics 'HELI-TELE' helicopter-mounted television viewing system, in its new Bell 222 helicopter.

'HELI-TELE', produced by Marconi Avionics Limited at Basildon and supplied to civic and military organizations in several European countries, enables a steady view of the ground to be obtained from a helicopter. The very precise stabilization of the TV camera's mounting enables pictures to be taken at long range with a powerful zoom lens to show important detail, unaffected by the vibration and other movements experienced in helicopters.

The system comprises a stabilized, steerable colour television camera, with a cockpit-mounted monitor for control purposes, and a data link to a remote command post. Data is transmitted 'live' in real time and can be recorded remotely. This facility has proved useful for many tasks, ranging from traffic supervision to crowd control.

The TV camera system, many of the functions of which are automatic, is controlled by an operator in the helicopter, who is free to concentrate on aiming the camera and operating the zoom lens.

'HELI-TELE', developed in the United Kingdom and now in operation in several countries, in a variety of helicopters, has earned nearly £1½ million in exports alone. The system for the Metropolitan Police, which has been operating since last summer, is now fitted to the new Bell 222 helicopter.

So useful has the system proved that a second system has now been ordered, for service in mid 1981, on the second Bell 222 the Metropolitan Police has ordered.

## Apprentice activity

Following satisfactory completion of Agreements the following apprentices will officially join the divisions and departments as indicated.

Now that the training period is over, we congratulate each one and wish them well as they pursue their respective careers.

### January 1981

Atkins T.  
Collins C.A.  
Davis I.A.  
Taylor S.  
Wink

ISD Wiring  
IN Mech. Insp.  
MASD Eng.  
FARL Eng.

### February 1981

Berry R.J.  
Hatt M.A.  
Stone G.K.  
Welch N.  
Wolley J.P.

MASD Eng.  
AS & R/W/T  
GYRO Eng.  
ATE Test  
FCD Tech. Pubs.

## Success

For the second year in succession, one of our student technologists has been awarded a national engineering scholarship from the Department of Education and Science. The recipient on this occasion is Neil Larkin, who commenced his training in 1979 and is now in his first year at Imperial College, London, where he is reading for an honours degree in electrical engineering.

Nationally there were 1000 applicants and 243 were awarded scholarships.

## OPEN UNIVERSITY

From time to time we draw attention to courses available for the Open University—the arm-chair university—and it is known that a number of Marconi personnel, are or have been students.

One such student for five years is John Neate, Senior Personnel Officer, who completed his studies mid 1980, and successfully graduated by obtaining his B.A. degree in Maths and Technology.

Congratulations John, may many other fellow employees follow your example and success.

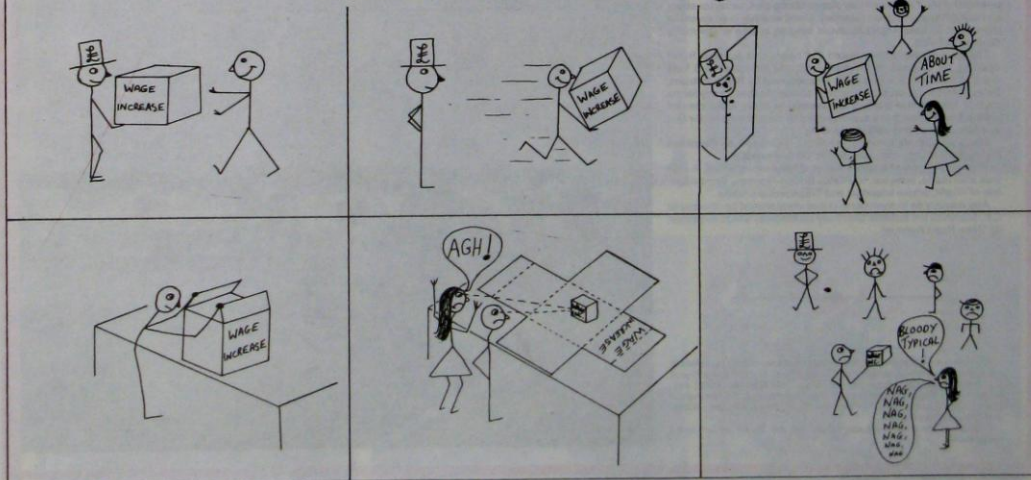
## Appointments

ATE announce the appointment of Mr. M.E. West as Chief of Test. He will report to Mr. A.F. Castle, Manager of Test and Commissioning.

We announce the appointment of Mr. J.P.P. Talbot to the position of Chief Engineer in Maritime Aircraft Systems Division

## WAGE INCREASE ?

BY DAVE SHAFRO (A00)



www.rochesteravionicarchives.co.uk

# The Royal Aeronautical Society

MEDWAY BRANCH

## Medway Branch Gala Lecture is a night to remember

President officiates at Shorts Commemorative Lecture by T.W. Brooke-Smith, FRAeS.

Members of the Medway Branch of the Royal Aeronautical Society, and their guests and visitors, came in force to the Short Brothers Commemorative Lecture on 19 November. Given by the distinguished ex-Shorts Test Pilot, Tom Brooke-Smith, now Public Relations Consultant to Flight Refuelling Limited, the lecture, or 'chat' as the speaker preferred to call it, entertained well over 500 people from all over the country.

Medway Branch lectures are held in historic Airport Works, once the home of the Stirling bomber and now the centre of the Rochester establishment of Marconi Avionics Limited, a location which had nostalgic associations for the speaker and for very many members of the audience, including the distinguished guests, officially invited by the Branch.

The Branch was particularly privileged to have Mr. P.A. Hearne, FRAeS, to officiate for the evening, his first opportunity to do so in Medway since he became President of the Royal Aeronautical Society.

Tom Brooke-Smith, or 'Brookie' as he is widely known, gave an interesting and often amusing account of his 26 flying years, a career which had its origins in his school holidays and led to his appointment as a test pilot at Shorts, where he joined John Lancaster-Parker's

team, flying Sunderland flying boats from the Medway and Stirling bombers (including the 'half scale' aeroplane) from Rochester. He became Chief Test Pilot in 1948 and by the time of his retirement in 1960, had completed the flight trials programme of Britain's first jet VTOL aircraft, the SC-1, and among other things, had carried out important flight testing of highly-swept wings with tip controls.

After the lecture, the past Mayor of Rochester-upon-Medway, Cllr. Mrs Peggy Saxby, a staunch aviation supporter herself, proposed the vote of thanks, which was enthusiastically received and then presented a cheque for £350 to the Branch's Aircraft Preservation Group, from the Council's Municipal Lottery Fund. During her year as Mayor, Cllr. Saxby had launched the programme for a memorial to Shorts to be erected in the Medway Towns - the only such recognition of the originators of the British aviation industry to be conceived either locally or nationally. Mr. George Stanley, a prominent businessman and President of the Shorts Long Service Association in Medway had generously agreed to provide the memorial, which will stand on land already allocated by the Borough Council on the Esplanade by the River Medway - near where the guest speaker's Sunderlands had, in his own words, "so often and so narrowly missed the bridge."



Tom Brooke-Smith (left) with the President of the Royal Aeronautical Society Mr. P.A. Hearne, Director and General Manager of MAV, who is also President of the Medway Branch of the Society.

## An MP's return to Medway - to plug the information gap

Kenneth Warren MP addresses Medway Branch of the Royal Aeronautical Society, 10 December 1980

Kenneth Warren MP, for years a member of Rochester's world leading avionics company and now Parliamentary Private Secretary to Sir Keith Joseph, returned to Rochester, to give a lecture to the Medway Branch of the Royal Aeronautical Society in the main canteen of his former company, Marconi Avionics Limited. The lecture, entitled 'An ABC of Politics and Aviation', was given in the presence of the President of the RAEs, Mr. P. A. Hearne, FRAeS, and 200 members of the Branch, their guests and visitors.

Ken Warren's well-researched talk was informative rather than party-political. "The influence which successive governments have had on aviation's development has been profound" he

argued "and yet the gap in mutual understanding is immense." He claimed that few people in the aviation industry, whatever their job, really understand how Parliament works and how its decisions are made, particularly those which affect aviation. The fact that most key marginal seats have aerospace factories in them would indicate a considerable political leverage if the industry were well-enough informed to apply it.

Ken Warren, FRAeS, was well able to plug the information gap. An MP for 10 years, he is himself a qualified Aeronautical Engineer, once managed the export-winning team which became Marconi Avionics Airborne Display Division and, after entering Parliament, has been Chairman of the Science,

Technology and Aerospace Committee of the Western European Union, since 1975.

After the lecture, the Branch Chairman, inviting discussion, announced that it was question time, but warned the speaker that written answers would not be acceptable. A vote of thanks was proposed by a friend and ex-colleague Mr. R.W. Howard, FRAeS, and enthusiastically received.

Closing the meeting, the Chairman thanked the Society's President for officiating at the opening, reported on the Branch's highly-successful November Gala lecture and wished all present a happy Christmas, with turkeys which exceeded their design wing loading.

## FLYING TRAINING SCHEME

On Friday, 3 October 1980, 10 members of the Flying Training scheme, with two company colleagues paid a flying visit to Lotus Cars Ltd. at Hethel near Norwich.

The visit, organized by Jim Birkenshaw, began with an uneventful journey, by all five planes taking part, using up about an hour of time on a good clear day. Good weather is an essential ingredient in East Anglia to avoid landing at one of the many disused airfields.

The tour of the factory lasted 2½ hours and covered from: castings for engines to finished units and fibreglass and hide skins to finished cars. The party was received by Roger Putnam, Sales Director of Lotus cars, on the runway. As the runway forms part of the car test track, it is essential to make radio contact before landing, so that a security car can control cars under test and keep the runway clear for landing.

The five aircraft forming the flight, belonged to Headcorn Flying School Ltd., and were 'Robin' DR 400 series.

This visit is one of a series run at infrequent intervals. A visit was also made, last year, to Pilatus Britten-Norman, Bembridge, Isle of Wight, where Islanders and Trilanders are made.

Any enquiry as to membership and visits should be directed to C.K. Marshall the scheme Secretary on Medway 44433 extension 42 (New Road Avenue).



The group are welcomed by Roger Putnam of Lotus Cars Ltd., others in the picture are from left to right: Ian Cooper (Gyro), Graham Baker (Gyro), Don Freeman (W.E.S.), Martin Haswell (ADD), Colin Marshall (FARL), Alan Dacey (FARL), Roger Putnam (Lotus), Alec Fraser (Gyro), Jim Birkenshaw (Gyro), Colin Dawes (Gyro), Paul Barstow (Gyro), Paul Buckingham (FARL) and Doug Holman (ADD).

The car on the track is a Lotus Esprit, with the 'Robin' aircraft in the background.

www.rochesteravionicarchives.co.uk

**Party Lines**

Dear Mrs. ...  
 Thank you for inviting me  
 to your party. It was  
 lovely. The performance was  
 well kept and very and  
 every was very and  
 I think next year my  
 class is coming so can you  
 make the performance later and  
 give I would like to come  
 for you.  
 From  
 Miss ...

Dear Emma  
 Thank you for inviting me  
 to the party. It was  
 lovely. The performance was  
 well kept and very and  
 every was very and  
 I think next year my  
 class is coming so can you  
 make the performance later and  
 give I would like to come  
 for you.  
 From  
 Miss ...

Dear Mrs. ...  
 Thank you for inviting me  
 to your party. It was  
 lovely. The performance was  
 well kept and very and  
 every was very and  
 I think next year my  
 class is coming so can you  
 make the performance later and  
 give I would like to come  
 for you.  
 From  
 Miss ...

**The Panto**



Widow Twanky, speaks her mind

**Santa**



A word from the wise, to the wise.



Santa's charming bundle.



The genie of the lamp



Here he comes - don't all rush!



We love him, he loves us.



The Emperor makes a point.

**We've got ours!**



Aladdin charms with voice.

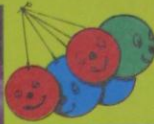
**The Group**



'Come up and try it'



# The Tea



The emblazoned jersey speaks for all! 'Champion.'



We're happy.



A refill.



We've only just started!



We've nearly finished.



I feel better already.

# a Party



Nearly gone!



Getting on with it.



All gone!



The race is on.



Oh! They caught me with another.



Tucking in regardless.

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

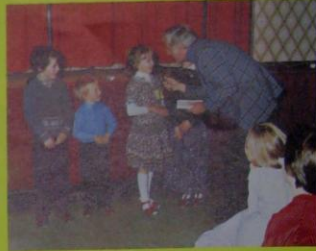
**Audience Participation**



**Being Entertained**



**Quiz**



*Oh - ask me that!*



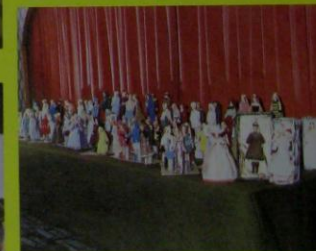
*I've forgotten it.*



*If only I could remember.*



**Dressed Doll Competition**



*Please turn to page 10 for more photographs of these beautifully dressed dolls and details of the winners.*



# 25 YEARS' SERVICE



Ben Athill with Mr. P.J. Burrows.

One of the more colourful characters around the Works — though working on the nightshift — has completed a stint of 25 years' unbroken service.

Rowland Benedict Athill of CMS, chose a clock, as a memento of the occasion, which Mr. P. Burrows, Production Manager, presented in a ceremony full of humour and pleasantries.

Ben, as he is universally known, was born in Trinidad and educated at St. Mary's College. He served in the RAF as a Wireless Operator from 1932 to 1933. During the war years, he worked on crashed aircraft. His career has been varied for he has managed a sports wear shop, has been a lorry driver, taxi driver and with his wife and daughter did service at the Old Chatham Empire.

He joined Elliotts under Ken Martin in MER (Ken is still the Nightshift Superintendent). Ben, then moved into Aviation Division onto coil winding, he then spent some time Plant (Spray Booth) before joining CMS, on permanent nights, on bench work.

A raconteur of conviction, he has a fund of stories which he tells with relish. The only difficulty is knowing when one's leg is being pulled.

He expressed thanks for the clock, which will remind him of the years spent among such a 'good bunch of guys.'



Brian Woolmer with his Divisional Manager, Mr. A.J. Colwell. (A)

Brian Woolmer of ADD Model Shop, is a 1980 member of the 25 years' LSA.

He began his Elliott career in 1955 within the then GW Division and later on moved over to the new Aviation Division Model Shop. His interest and skills have kept him in the Model Shop areas ever since, although he once joined an Engineers Laboratory doing model work. He joined FID Model Shop, working with them until he joined ADD as a Model Shop Planner. From there he went to IN Production, but returned to ADD Model Shop and is now a Section Leader in Model Shop Planning.

He is married with two daughters, one of whom works for the Company at Gads Hill. Besides doing, as necessary, all the DIY jobs around the house, he honestly confesses to being interested in sport but only as a spectator!

Mr. A.J. Colwell presented him with a gold watch in the foyer of Corsair Building, to mark the occasion.



Alf Knight.

Alf Knight of CACD Engineering has qualified for LSA membership and his record reads like a history of the Company itself.

When Alf joined Guided Weapons Division at Borehamwood in December 1955, he had already enjoyed a wide range of experiences, including war-time flying of Tiger Moths and Ansons in Rhodesia and flying Halifaxes fitted with H2S for delivery to the liberated French.

His industrial experience included development work with Reid and Signist, BEA, the Decca Navigation Co., the Ministry of Civil Aviation and a period with the Ocean Weather Stations, sometimes 100 miles south of Iceland, on weather ships.

In Guided Weapons Division he worked with Stan Armstrong, Geoff Bishop and John Bussell on GPV and then Blue Water, Blue Steel and TSR2. In 1980 Alf transferred to the Aircraft Controls Division and worked with Eric Priestly and Robin Sleight on FIMAC and lightning auto attack.

1961 he moved to Rochester and set up the simulation for a take-off director for the Comet which was the beginning of the Company's interest in HUDs. Later he worked with the late Colwyn Stone and Doug Gennell on the control of VTOL aircraft, work which led to our contracts on the Harrier and the Fiat G95 flying bedstead.

Having survived all this military pioneering work, he then transferred to the civil side of the Company to an even more demanding job and worked on the VC10 and BAC 1-11 automatic landing systems. Here he became the king on the 'Long', 'Lat' and 'Comp Monitors', which have been the stepping stones to many a career.

In 1975 he moved on to Boeing Projects and worked on the development of the high integrity intelligent pilots controller for the YC14. From the YC14 he transferred to the Boeing 747 autothrottle and then to the Jaguar fly by wire system.

Alf has made a significant contribution to each of the projects he has worked on and has absorbed many new disciplines as he has moved from valves to LSI, from analogue to digital and from low authority autostabilisers to full-time fly by wire systems.

As a mark of appreciation of his loyalty, integrity and skill over 25 years, Mr. J. Spinks, Divisional Manager, CACD, presented Alf with his chosen gift — a clock.

During the summer of 1980, one of the youngest employees attained 25 years' unbroken service with the Company. Diane Firth, of ADD, came as a young girl and has progressed within the Company's service.

When she reached 21 her friends and colleagues of that time saw that the event was celebrated in style, but on receiving her 25 years gift, her typical reticence prevented a public recognition.



Mr. Alexander presents Mr. Broadbent with a clock. (A)

Under the declared rules of the GEC LSA scheme, one of the top management 'back-room boys' has clocked up some 40 years' service, but in 1980 qualified as a Rochester LSA member of 25 years.

David T. Broadbent began his career on 1 July 1940, with Metropolitan-Vickers at Trafford Park. In 1946 he joined Precision Developments and began to work with B and P Swift on developing electrical power systems for aircraft and process controls.

Leaving the ranks of Precision Developments, he became a member of Elliotts payroll in 1950, and was located at Borehamwood before moving to Rochester. In 1956 he joined Firth Cleveland at Treforest (who later became an Elliott Company) and worked on fuel flow equipment. When Treforest Works closed he returned to Rochester where he is still located as Productivity Adviser.

Mr. W.H. Alexander presented him with a clock to mark his anniversary and spoke of David's work in the most complimentary terms, saying his was a most difficult job but, in carrying it out, he had retained many friendships and his personal popularity; even persuading some of the most difficult people to carry out jobs they would rather not do!



Doug Wright, PSD, shares a joke with Mr. Stitt. (D)

Another of our long standing employees received recognition in 1980, Douglas Edwin Wright (Doggie) of PSD, was presented with a gold watch by Mr. I. Stitt, Divisional Manager, to mark 25 years' service.

Doggie, a native of London but brought up and educated at Crayford, where his father was employed by Vickers. He saw life at Ramsgate, helping the family boarding house, before joining Short Bros, with his father, as a trade boy in 1934.

He, with many others went to Feltham, in the early war years, and was called up into the Army in 1944. His service was mainly in this country at such locations as Carlisle, Sevenoaks and Weybridge, within a REME unit, before going to Germany as part of the Army of Occupation.

In 1955 he came to Elliotts and was given a job in the Bench Section, on GYRO, as a fitter. He later joined such stalwarts as Stan Webb and Jim Casey in the Fuel Flow Rig. Doug also worked on the Bendix transmitters and continued to do so after AEI was formed. At the amalgamation Doug continued as a Leading Hand on the same work in ISD, until the formation of PSD when the Fuel Flow side was transferred to that Division.

He was at one time, a keen cyclist, but AEI members will remember how driving a four-wheeled vehicle caused him many problems. His hobbies now include travelling — with somebody else taking the strain, gardening and reading. The only daughter of his marriage is married and lives at Rainham.

# RETIREMENTS



After 20 years with the Company, the time being spent as a member of the Accounts Department, Charlie Smyth the Divisional Administrative Officer has retired. A quiet unassuming nature, he endeared himself by quiet efficiency and dedication.

As a token of good wishes for a long and happy retirement, Charlie was presented with a radio cassette recorder to help him enjoy, at all times, the music of which he is fond.

The photograph shows Charlie (centre) flanked by colleagues, including Mr. S. Handley, Chief Accountant (right) who made the presentation and Sid Alltimes (on his left) who has succeeded him as Administrative Officer.



Josie Green with Mr. Elliott. (D)

When Josie Green of IN Purchasing retired IN Division lost a cheery and likeable character. She had been with the Company for a total of 20 years, as a Clerk in various departments and divisions.

To mark the retirement and as an expression of good wishes Mr. R.A. Elliott presented her with cards, flowers, a tankard and binoculars subscribed for by her friends and colleagues. Josie says she will be content and happy enjoying her garden, including the work involved.



Mrs. Emma Starkey (A)

1980 saw the retirement from daily participation in work-a-day activities of Mrs. Emma Starkey. She has been with the Company for some 13 years, the last four of which were spent in MASD, as a 'Banda' Operator. Before this she was the Cashier in the canteen.

Farewell gifts of large and small sherry glasses, cards and flowers were presented to her, in a small ceremony within the Department. Her plans are simply to spend more time at home, and to support her husband who is a lorry driver.

## Dressed Doll Competition

The response to this competition was such as to encourage us to plan for another, or similar event in the future.

There were 76 entries, but as some entrants gave more than the outfit in which the doll was dressed, we have been able to give away many more 'dressed dolls'.

The judges, drawn from Medway College of Design, the Head of Needlework and Craft, a Teacher and a Welfare Officer had a most difficult task in making a selection. Finally they resolved to put the entries into three categories and award prizes to one in each category.

- The groups selected were:
1. Most beautifully dressed
  2. Most original design
  3. Finest work

The winners were:

- Group 1— *Miss Vera Bocking, CMS Inspection Department (her doll is pictured left foreground).*  
 Group 2— *Mrs. Peggy Davies, Print Room, (her doll is shown centre foreground).*  
 Group 3— *Mrs. Tom Bengler, a member of the '65 Club, Maidstone (her doll can be seen on the right foreground).*



## Rochester Cathedral Flower Festival 19th-21st June 1981

The Flower Festival, to be held in the Norman nave of Rochester Cathedral, promises to be a very significant milestone in the Cathedral's history. Since the re-dedication of the nave 850 years ago, such a festival has been held in the Cathedral only once. The first, in 1973, was a great success with over 30,000 people coming to view it from a very wide area. On this second occasion, under the patronage, once again, of the Bishop of Rochester and Mrs. R. D. Say, OBE JP, the festival proceeds will go to the Cathedral funds.

The Festival will be staged by clubs of the Flower Arrangement Association of Kent (FAAK), together with the Cathedral Flower Guild. It will be planned under the direction of Mrs. Evelyn Mercer, Chairman of the FAAK.

Planning has begun in earnest, by an organizing committee chaired by the Vice-Dean, Canon P.A. Welsby. Interest and enthusiasm is growing and offers of help are coming from many quarters. The Royal National Rose Society\* has offered its support through its President Mr. Eric Elwes and recently the committee was excited to learn that Mrs. Janet Watlington, President of the Garden Club of Bermuda, is hoping to send fresh flowers and foliage by air for the Festival.

In conjunction with the Flower Festival there will be a programme of music and, in the crypt, an exhibition of Kentish crafts.

\* The Very Rev. Dean Reynolds Hole was Dean of Rochester 1877-1904 and founder of the National Rose Society. There is a memorial to him in the south transept of the Cathedral and two bushes of a rose named after him still grow in the Cathedral Garth. Charles Dickens, who had great associations with the Cathedral, is also remembered by a memorial in the south transept. He had a great love of geraniums and ivy and will be remembered in a flower arrangement.

## ALL IN A GOOD CAUSE ROCHESTER TEAMS' HOSPICE SUPPORT

### Appreciation shown for the record £2000, so far donated

On 17 November, Miss Betty Taylor of the Medway Health Authority's Symptom Control Team, visited the Rochester factory as a guest of Marconi Avionics Limited. She had come for two special reasons: to meet and thank members of Airborne Display Division, whose regular contributions to the Wisdom Hospice Appeal already stand at some £400, and to receive a handsome cheque for £100 from the Company's canteen staff.

Medway Health District is the only organization in Kent which provides care for the terminally ill, care which is not provided by the National Health Service. The Symptom Control Team helps patients and their relatives to adjust to the spiritual and physical suffering which terminal illness implies. At present it calls on the help of St Christopher's Hospice Sydenham, SE26, to accommodate those patients who, often frightened and in pain, need the atmosphere of calm and comfort which only a Hospice can provide.

The Wisdom Hospice Appeal is in aid of a 15-bedded Hospice to be sited in the grounds of St William's Hospital in Rochester Way. Named after Molly Wisdom, a patient who promised, before she died, to raise £50 towards a Hospice - the effect of which was to cause the fund to swell to £2000 by the time of her death, the Wisdom Hospice will be Kent's only complete care centre with a fully-operating Symptom Control Team.

Funds required are a formidable £500000, of which £138000 has already been contributed. People at Marconi Avionics, in all divisions and departments and as other groups and associations, have contributed about £2000 so far, more than the employees of any other company have so far done.

The Hospice fund is one of many charities towards which the Company's employees contribute. The Elliott Concert Brass recently raised £600 towards the fund and a member of Marconi Avionics (Val in Transport) is reputed to be contemplating a sponsored parachute jump. Miss Taylor was well aware of these efforts, which were deeply appreciated.

During her visit, she was glad to have an opportunity of expressing her thanks to the ADD team and to the canteen staff.

It was a wonderful inspiration to those who care for the terminally ill to know how much their work is valued and to see their dream of a Hospice for Medway becoming a reality.

Marconi Avionics General Manager, Mr. Glyn Thomas, and Mrs. Sheila Finch and Mrs. Maureen Haughey from ADD entertained Miss Taylor to lunch in the visitors' dining room, prior to the handing-over to her of the canteen staff's welcome contribution. During the lunch, she expressed her deep appreciation for all the efforts made throughout MAv on behalf of the Hospice.

Divisions who do not already know about the good work which Hospices do can hire a film, called 'Hospice', which runs for about 35 minutes. The hire fee is low and the film can be obtained by contacting Miss Taylor on Medway 41511.



Miss Taylor receives a cheque for £100.



Miss Taylor with some members of the large ADD team who are contributing to the Wisdom Hospice.

## Toy, Gift and Carol Service

The third annual toy, gift and carol service, held on 15 December 1980, attracted many people who sang carols, admired the Christmas tree and donated gifts.

During the Service Mr. J. Collins, Secretary of the Elliott Social Club, presented to Miss B. Taylor, of the Symptom Control Unit, a cheque for £550 for the Wisdom Hospice Appeal, to which was added the collection taken at the Service amounting to £67.53.

The letter below expresses the thanks of those concerned with the appeal.

Dear Sir,  
 Thank you very much for your wonderful donation of £617.53 which was handed to Miss Taylor, of the Symptom Control Team for the Wisdom Hospice.

We are most grateful, and would like you to thank everyone concerned for all the hard work and effort that must have gone into raising this amount.

Your continued support is a great encouragement to us in raising the £500000 to build the Hospice, and we are pleased to tell you that we are now appointing an Architect to draw up the final plans for the building. Our funds are increasing steadily, and we hope to lay the foundations early in 1982.

Again, many thanks to all concerned, and our best wishes for the continued success of your club.

Yours sincerely,  
 D. Rogers (Mrs.)  
 Hon. Secretary.

## "THE WHITE GATE"


ALL day long I sit by the roadside on a stretch of grass under a high hedge of saplings and a tangle of traveller's joy, woodbine, sweetbriar, and late roses. Opposite me is a white gate, seldom used, if one may judge from the trail of honeysuckle growing tranquilly along it. I know now that whenever and wherever I die my soul will pass out through this white gate, and then, thank God, I shall not have need to undo that trail.

NOW it is a strangely uneventful road that leads to my White Gate. Each day questions me as it passes, each day makes answer for me 'not yet'. There is no material preparation to be made for this journey of mine into a far country—a simple fact which adds to the 'unknowallness' of the other side. Do I travel alone, or am I one of a great company, swift yet unhurried in their passage? Maybe silence commends itself as most suitable for the wayfarers towards the sunrise—silence because they seek the Word—but for those hastening towards the confusion they have wrought there falls already the sharp oncoming of the curse.

THE gloomy portal when we reach it is but a white gate, the White Gate maybe we have known all our lives barred by the tendrils of the woodbine. But beyond the white gate and the trail of woodbine falls the silence greater than speech, darkness greater than light, a pause of 'a little while', and then the touch of the healing garment as we pass to the King in His beauty, in a land from which there is no return.

At the gateway then I cry you farewell.

From 'The Roadmender'  
 by Michael Farless



**THE FRIENDS OF THE WISDOM HOSPICE**  
 MEDWAY & SWALE HEALTH DISTRICT

WOULD YOU LIKE TO HELP?  
 Contact  
**BILL MITCHELL**  
 Fund-raising Group Organizer  
 The Cedars, Aylesford, Kent.  
 Tel: Maidstone 77438  
 or  
**MRS. D. ROGERS**  
 Secretary  
 "Churchlands"  
 18b City Way, Rochester, Kent.  
 Tel: Medway 44189  
**MR. M. STICKLAND**  
 Treasurer  
 c/o B. R. C. S.  
 67 High Street, Rochester, Kent.



The President and Mrs. Griffiths greet Mr. and Mrs. T. Benger.



The Secretary C. Skinner and his wife (front foreground).



Charlie Smyth and Joe Willans can both be seen.



Charlie Smyth is welcomed.



Another group of members.



Members 'tucking in'.



A greeting for other well-known worthies.



Happiness abounds.



The top table with Roy and Eileen Papworth.



A word or two with Miss Mutton.

## '65 Club Christmas Party

The annual Christmas party of the Elliott '65 Club was held in the club-house on 9 December 1980. The members and guests were welcomed by the President, Mr. Jess Griffiths, and his wife.

There were 114 people present at the party including Bert and Mrs. Snoswell, Harry and Mrs. Staff, Sid Randall and Eileen and Roy Papworth. The well furnished tables were supplied by the Club Stewards, Dave and Peggy Boniface, to which ample justice was done.

Music for dinner and dancing was supplied by Arthur Brown and Friends, which was most enjoyable and seasonal. The company was also entertained by Rita Cook, who gave renderings of well-known songs 'from the shows' and old favourites. This was greatly appreciated and also the efforts of the accompanist.

During the evening birthdays were honoured and also wedding anniversaries. Mr. and Mrs. Cyril Boorman were serenaded with an amended 'My Old Dutch' to celebrate their Golden Wedding Anniversary on 26 December. The usual presentation of a box of All Gold chocolates together with a suitably inscribed card was presented to them by the President, to which a suitable reply was made.



Some well-known people pause for a picture.



Joe and Mrs. Davies (right foreground).



Dick Arnold (foreground right).



Pleased to see you.



A group of members.



Bill Hobson (corner, left foreground).



Mr. and Mrs. Dave Clark (centre).



Well-known faces: May Parker, Mrs. Collins, Bert Belson, Francis Haslett, Harry and Selina Dyer.



Mr. and Mrs. Fox (right-hand side of centre).



Bert Snoswell, Sports and Social Club Chairman, talking to Harry Staff, Cyril and Mrs Boorman (Chairman of '65 Club) are on Bert's right.

# Sports and social club round up

## ELLIOTT GOLF SOCIETY

The 1980 season of the Elliott Golf Society was brought to its conclusion with a most successful candlelight supper at the Social Club, Featherby Road, attended by over 150 members and guests.

After an excellent meal the main prizes for the year were presented by Mrs. Collins, wife of the Captain.

We are arranging a full programme with six outings next year, knock-out competitions, matches against Basildon, Borehamwood, Frimley and Portsmouth and there will again be an inter-divisional competition. Any members of the Social Club who would like to join the Golf Society should contact the Secretary, Mr. A. Gillett IND Engineering. Application forms will be available in early March.



Presentation of All Harrison Cup to Singles Champion Jim Pickford (FARL).



Presentation of Durrant Cup to Doubles Champions Jack Gullion (ATE) and Alf Hanby (Honorary Member).



Presentation of Inter-Divisional Trophy to ISD represented by Peter Baker, Guy Bodkin, Peter Jordan and Bob Curtis.



Members of the Tri-Site team who beat Basildon and Borehamwood in the annual match.

From left to right—John Spinks (CACD), John Paul (ATE), Ken Shaw (ATE), John France (ISD), Dave Gosling (MASD), Guy Bodkin (ISD) and Peter Baker (ISD).

## ATHLETIC SECTION

The Elliott Athletic Club, is one of the most virile sections of the Sports and Social Club. In the past few months the club has marked up some notable successes, with the members being in good heart and form the trend should continue through to the summer season.

On 1 November at Reigate, in the Priory Relays, Elliotts were placed 3rd after Brighton and Hove and Cambridge H. The leading Elliott man home was Brian McSloy (MASD) in 3rd place in 12.36.

On the same day, in the Mike Sully, Youth Cross Country, Elliotts took the team award with 48 points; Andrew Saker 17.02, in 3rd place, Christopher Sellers 7th in 17.14 and Neil Maytum 17th in 17.39 were the leading Elliott men home.

On 16 November, in the Rochester 5, Brian McSloy (MASD) was the winner, in 24.32, followed by E. Martin of Basildon, with Graham Clark (ATE) 3rd in 24.56, Alan Guilder of Elliott AC 15th in 26.5 and Dave Minter (Elliott AC) 24th in 26.21.

Other Elliott competitors took 58th, 70th, 92nd, 105th and 108th places. The Elliott team won with 43 points.

On 22 November, in the Kent C.C. Championships at Bexley, Alan Guilder (Elliott AC) came first in 27.12.

An exceptional result was gained in the Jean Beoin Invitation Cross Country races at Barcelona, Spain, when Elliotts Brian McSloy (MASD) was placed 2nd in 25.41.6.

In the Kent League match at Maidstone, Elliotts had men home in 3rd, 7th and 10th places—Graham Clark (ATE), Alan Guilder and Dave Minter, and as a result Cambridge H now lead Elliott AC by only 1 point in the league table. In the London Business Houses C.C. David Coney was 2nd in 33.51, Kevin Minter 3rd, Kerry Hayes 8th and Tom Joyce 16th.

On 13 December, in the I.A.C. Cross Country at Crystal Palace, Brian McSloy (MASD) at 17th and Graham Clark (ATE) at 40th were the leading Elliott runners. In the Inter County Schools C.C. at Birmingham Alan Guilder won for the Club and Country in 25.7, with another Elliott man—David Coney 4th in 25.31.

The Annual General Meeting was held on 20 November and favourable reports were received from the Secretary and Treasurer.

The Secretary's report contained a special word of praise for Mark Butler (FCD) who had produced an excellent review of the 1980 track season (extracts from this report will be given in succeeding issues of *N.A.S. News*, Ed).

The Club had gained promotion to Division I, and the cross country A and B teams medal positions.

The balance sheet shows a balance carried forward of £36.84 from an income of £478.76.

Election of officers resulted as follows:

Chairman	Mr. W.H. Alexander, B.Sc., Asst. Managing Director
Hon. Secretary	Mr. D. Saker
Hon. Treasurer	Mr. F.L. Murphy
Minute Secretary	Mr. D. Morrissey
Meeting Secretary	Mrs. C.S. Smith
Entry Secretary	Mr. E. Cook
Team Manager Div. I	Mr. M. Butler
Team Manager Div. 6	Mr. F.L. Murphy (Kent League) Mr. R. Langley
Press Officer	Mr. Alan Guilder
Coach Rep	Mr. P. Mulvey
Transport Officer	Mr. F.L. Murphy
Social Secretary	Mrs. S. Minter
Equipment Steward	Mr. D. Saker
Club Captain (Winter)	Mr. A. Champ
Club Captain (Summer)	Mr. G. Gallagher
Enrolment Officer	Mrs. J. Jones
Recruitment Officers	(Maidstone area) Mr. E. Cook (Medway area) Mr. P. Trickett
Ladies' Team Manager	Mr. R. Stone
Fixture Secretary (Winter)	Mr. R. Henderson
Fixture Secretary (Summer)	Mr. M. Butler
Additional Committee members	Mr. K. Minter, Miss S. Dorkins, Mr. J.E. Smith, Mr. R. Smith.

Thanks were accorded to the President for his guidance and devotion to the Club, to D. Saker, Chairman, for all his hard work and to Ron Cooke and Jim Collins among others.

The Club is always on the look out for new members—experienced or novices—and any one interested in competing, or supporting will be welcomed. Information of any promising youngsters would be greatly appreciated, as only by a continual influx of new talent can the Club prosper and grow. An appeal is also made to parents to join in, not only to support the events, but to take on responsibilities to aid the youngsters.

## PROGRAMME

Date	Fixture	Venue
Jan. 24	H.H.H. Young Athletes League	Brockwell
31	South of Thames Senior Cross Country	West Wickham
Feb. 7	Newland Park Road Relay	St. Giles
14	Southern Cross Country Champs (seniors, juniors, youths and boys)	Cockfosters
Mar. 7	E.C.C.U. Championships (seniors, juniors and youths)	Parliament Hill
14	H.H.H. Young Athletes League	Brockwell
21	International Business Houses Cross Country Championships	Tonbridge
		Dublin

## INSURANCE SCHEMES

Our Insurance Brokers, Graeme Blair Ltd., would like to remind members of the substantial reductions available to them on motor car and household insurance premiums.

Up to 25% is offered off motor insurance premiums, together with the usual optional reductions for restricting drivers, age of car, voluntary excesses and two car discounts. No claims bonus can be transferred from your existing motor policy at renewal.

A 20% reduction is available on household insurance. First-class cover is secured with Lloyds of London.

For quotations or any further details contact: Graeme Blair Ltd., telephone Dartford 72215, or visit their representative who calls at the main canteen, Thursday afternoons after 3.30pm.

Are you paying too much? It costs nothing to find out.

## MUSIC IN THE CLUB-HOUSE

1981			
JANUARY	24 SPIRAL	MARCH	7 INCROWD
	31 KINGS RANSOM		14 22 CARAT
FEBRUARY	7 AURA		21 MESCALERO
	14 THYME		28 HAPPY DAZE
	21 ZEBEDEE		
	28 KNIGHTTRIDER		

## FOR YOUR DIARY

FEBRUARY: Over 50 Cocktail Party

APRIL 11: L.S.A. Annual Dinner

JUNE 20: Fete Day

## AN APPEAL—ARE YOU INTERESTED?

### SEVEN-A-SIDE RUGBY FOOTBALL

A scheme has been mooted for a seven-a-side rugby football inter-divisional competition and all rugby enthusiasts are invited to join the scheme.

Any number of groups of seven players, from divisions can be organized.

For full details, and plans, or for help in starting off, contact: Martin Weller (int. 950) or Andy File (int. 204) or Martin Ratcliffe (int. 624)

Don't be hesitant, let us see how quickly the idea can be transformed into a real competition.

## DO YOU DRAW, PAINT OR SCULPT?

WOULD YOU LIKE TO TRY?

IF SO READ ON..

It is intended to form an

## ART SOCIETY

within Marconi Avionics Rochester.

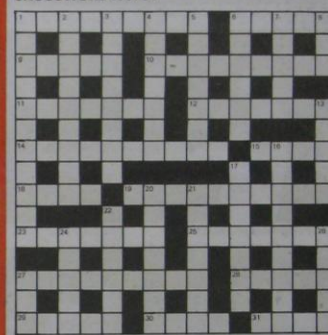
Would any person interested in

participating in such a Society

Please Contact

Jim Collins Soc. Sec. or Glen Bartle ASRD  
Int Phone 217 or Int Phone 831

## CROSSWORD NO. 31



- |   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
| <b>ACROSS</b>   | 1. Needlessly daring, Nelson might say (8)                | 7. Necessary to save the children, at home (4, 7)          |
| 6. Still as a poker (5)                               | 8. Not really rude, but no courtesy (9)                   | 2. Vilenish and haggard she is (8)                         |
| 9. Send back or reconsider from text book (5)         | 10. Not wanted, the mat is blank (9)                      | 4. Purgative, fruitish, rubbishy term (7)                  |
| 10. From part of flower, helps prowess of athlete (7) | 11. A hole being looked at (7)                            | 5. A hole being looked at (7)                              |
| 12. A clinger, but not of quantity (9)                | 13. Sometimes agree vegetable, but not this pickle (3, 7) | 6. Sends on, passing the baton (8)                         |
| 14. Instrument of wood wind (4)                       | 15. Edward or Edwin, for short take your pick (4)         | 7. Goblin who endears to gardeners (5)                     |
| 18. Edward or Edwin, for short take your pick (4)     | 19. A lovely, perhaps eastern felina (7, 3)               | 8. Female animal (3)                                       |
| 23. An eel or for a foot in it (7)                    | 20. The rewards of effort (7)                             | 13. It's in port again, yo ho! (5)                         |
| 25. Ripped causes such a do (7)                       | 21. A child's school case (7)                             | 16. An aircraft type or pirate (9)                         |
| 27. Heavenly type of aquatic thing (5, 4)             | 22. Out of date means of transferring lights (6)          | 17. It holds up the locks, or locks the double back (4, 3) |
| 28. Still but don't step on it changes (5)            | 24. A small mass of metal maybe gold (5)                  | 20. Out of date means of transferring lights (6)           |
| 29. Japanese flower, or could it be eian (5)          | 26. Makes a choice of alternatives (5)                    | 21. A child's school case (7)                              |
| 30. Metal 9 connotations                              | 27. Sick, sounds a real drink (3)                         | 22. Out of date means of transferring lights (6)           |
| 31. Following in the steps (4)                        |   | 23. Sick, sounds a real drink (3)                          |
- For amusement only*

## SOLUTION TO CROSSWORD NO. 30

**ACROSS**  
1 Imposition, 6 Opus, 9 Out of order, 10 Oslo, 13 Develop, 15 Heaven, 16 Talent, 17 Bubble and squeak, 19 Canine, 20 Pewter, 21 Exhaust, 22 Root, 25 Minor canon, 26 Ways, 27 Settle Down.

**DOWN**  
1 Icon, 2 Path, 3 Softer, 4 Three men in a boat, 5 Ocalot, 7 Past events, 8 Short skirt, The back row, 12 Carbon copy, 13 Decline, 14 Parquet, 19 Expire, 20 Psyche, 23 Anno, 24 Anon.

Photographs taken by the Staff Photographers will be acknowledged in the following way: (A) Alan Kaine, (B) Lesley Jones, (C) Lesley Foster and (D) Albert Wainwright.

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 and printed by John H. Hunt & Company Limited, Cleckheaton, Yorkshire.