



MOTTO FOR THE MONTH
Let's dance and sing and make good cheer.
For Christmas comes but once a year.



THE QUEEN'S AWARD FOR EXPORT ACHIEVEMENT 1983



THE QUEEN'S AWARD FOR TECHNOLOGICAL ACHIEVEMENT TO MARITIME AIRCRAFT SYSTEMS DIVISION

THOUSANDS VISIT MAv's GREAT DAY

Open Day, Saturday 12 November, was the occasion both of the formal presentation of the Queen's Awards by the Lord Lieutenant of Kent, and the Company's show day by employees to their families and to customers, suppliers, and guests from other parts of Marconi Avionics and GEC, and from the local community.

Glyn Thomas, General Manager, who was mastermind of the day's events, estimated that around 11,000 visitors came on the day. His team of helpers included Maurice Needham, Market Development Executive, who has been a key figure on previous Open Days and who had at his fingertips all the details that go into the organisation of the event.

Tremendous efforts had been made by every Division to put on interesting and informative displays, as well as the light hearted and entertaining side. No account could possibly mention all the individual and group contributions made by employees — suffice it to say that the day was a resounding success and thanks from Divisional Managers for the contributions made by all concerned have been widely circulating since the event.

Principal guests were The Lord Lieutenant of Kent, Robin Leigh-Pemberton Esq., the Bishop of Rochester, Dr David Say, and the Mayor of Rochester, Cllr. Adrian Crowther. Local M.P.s, Trade Union Leaders, and large

parties from MAv Basildon and Borehamwood were present, and Rochester outposts such as Yeovil and Nailsea also came. It was only possible to fit around 700 people into the main canteen for the official presentation, but despite the slightly chilly day the rest of the factory was soon busy with what seemed to be everyone's families, being shown around Divisions already well known by one or other parent — sometimes both parents. This was a great opportunity to visit other Divisions not known to oneself also.

Many other attractions were on view. Popmobility, the Brass Band, the RAF team demonstrating the Nimrod system, the Sea King Helicopter. During and after the visits there were the tea bars and rest areas.

The ceremonial part of the day is reported elsewhere. As a follow-up to that, the Lord Lieutenant was shown round the corporate exhibition in the Conference Suite and visited Maritime Aircraft Systems Division to ensure that the Queen's Award was fittingly displayed; he then saw several of the Division's activities, before finally leaving the site in mid-afternoon. His thanks to the Company appear elsewhere — the thanks of the Company Management to all who contributed to the day's success are recorded here. It was a day that will, for whatever reason, be long remembered by all.

*A
Very Happy
and
Joyful
Christmas
and a
Prosperous
New Year
to you all*



The recipients of the Queen's Awards on behalf of MASD and the Company. (L-R) Debbie Soames and Keith Manning (MASD), Ivor Francis (MAv Borehamwood) and Anne Dirmnick (MAv Basildon). (A)



Trophy and Scroll installed in MASD by the Lord Lieutenant, Debbie Soames and Keith Manning. (A)

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Erik Loft (Calibration) and John Brambleby, GYRO
Others are required for, COD, RAS

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

Congratulations

There are not many congratulations at hand this month, but we must not forget Anne Billing's big pools win; the fourth floor secretaries had a celebration with the proceeds — 64 pence!

Engagements

The CACD 'proggies' would like to congratulate Julian Buckmaster and his fiancée Wendy on their recent engagement. The Editor understands that some mysterious dark coloured Newcastle ale is being made available to celebrate, but is unable to spell the relevant advertising slogan, for which the brewers won't pay anyway.

Marriages

Congratulations from the CACD programming group again, to super Sue Howell on her marriage to Justin Cooper. Sue has been with the group for 5 months, but will be remembered also in MASD, ADD and ATE where she spent time during her student training course. Is she now a Super Cooper, and should this make her take note of the Morris Minor referred to last month?

APPOINTMENTS and PROMOTIONS

Glyn Thomas's appointment as General Manager of Support Services for the whole of Marconi Avionics Ltd means that in addition to his existing duties, he will be responsible for the management of Estate Services in all MAV establishments.

Alex Castle, just appointed Production Manager of ATED, started in the division's Engineering department in 1967, being involved in a number of their US Navy and Air Force projects. By 1976 he had risen to Project Manager for the compact FATE, and in early 1978 moved to Production Dept. as Manager, Test and Commissioning. Alex lives in Sittingbourne and has 3 grown up children — his interests of the countryside and classical music provide his relaxation.



Peter Simmons (A)

Peter Simmons is now Press Officer for Marconi Avionics, responsible to Malcolm Moulton for the preparation and issue of information for journalists relating to all aspects of the company's products and activities. Peter has been with MAV since February 1978, when he joined ATED Technical Publications as Editor. For the last two years he has been in ADD involved with formalising their software documentation requirements, a task which has involved travel to overseas customers. His earlier career was in the advertising design business; he lives in Gillingham and is married with two young boys. If he has any time for hobbies, photography and fishing are his interests.

Bill Ricketts has taken up the post of cashier in consequence of the retirement of Tony Knoyle, who leaves as this issue appears. Bill joined MAV two years ago, his previous career having included 22 years in the Royal Engineers and a time with a local engineering firm. He lives in Gillingham; his 3 children are now grown up, and his office of Treasurer to the local RE Association take up much of his spare time.

APOLOGIES

The editor owes his apologies to some people for slips of the pen in last month's issue. The caption to the picture of Mr. Boxall receiving a gift stated that the presentation was made by Mick Meakin — this should of course have referred to the Chief Production Engineer of PSD, Bert Kennett.

There was also a reference to the promotion of a Principal Development Engineer in ATE; this is Derek Raymont.

OBITUARY

We learned with regret of the death of Frank Nicholas aged 58, from a heart attack at his home in Rainham on October 24th. Frank, a Project Leader in MASD, had been with the company for about 14 years following 22 years in the Army and will be remembered for his great contribution to the MASD Rigs and for his constant interest in and help to many younger employees in the division. He leaves a widow and two daughters — a son-in-law works in ADD.

Ian Minards, Senior Software Engineer in CACD, died accidentally at his lodgings on October 15th aged 29. He was a popular member of the Software group which he joined four years ago following a period in Canada and a post-graduate diploma from Glasgow College of Technology. He was a keen sportsman particularly in skiing and squash; it is hoped to set up a squash trophy in his memory among the local clubs.

Derek Wiggins, Inspector in Gyro Division Goods Inwards, lost his life in an accident on the way to work on November 21st. His widow and 20 year old son live in Maidstone, and he had been with the company for 7 years.

Central Charity Fund

The Fund is now in operation with 180 members and an income of £18 per week. A modest start, but a solid foundation upon which we can grow. Although our savings had not reached a high figure it was still felt, particularly with the season of goodwill rapidly approaching, that we should make a gesture. The Committee at its last meeting on the 15th November decided to make two grants of £50 — one to the Molly Wisdom Hospice and one to a children's related charity.

If any members know of any worthy local cause which they believe deserve help, information should be given to the Chairman c/o Personnel Department or any member of the Committee, listed below. Application forms for those willing to contribute 10p a week are available in the Personnel Department.

The Fund has now been formally registered as a Charity and is now recognised by all the appropriate official bodies such as the Charity Commissioners.

Watch future editions of MAV News for more reports.

Mr. J. H. Roberts	Chairman
Mr. B. C. Handley	Treasurer
Mrs. P. Turner	Apex Representative
Mr. R. Fudge	Monthly (Non-Union Representative)
Mr. P. Payne	Management Representative
Mrs. E. C. McMillan	Personnel Representative
Mr. K. Castle	TASS Representative

BLOOD TRANSFUSION SERVICE

The Surgery have received a letter thanking all Donors at the recent session. A total of 632 units of blood were collected — each unit being rather less than a pint.

The next session is to be from 19th-23rd March. Existing donors will be notified and Sister Gordon would be pleased to hear from anyone else who would like to contribute to this excellent cause.

RAeS Branch rewards past Chairman

At a recent Branch meeting, Malcolm Moulton, now Vice-President of the Medway branch of the Royal Aeronautical Society, received a gift from Chairman Ian Cooper in recognition of his services in that office from May 1978 to early 1983, when he stood down on medical advice. In thanking the committee and members for the gift of a picture of Sir Douglas Bader's Hurricane, Malcolm referred to that brilliant airman's inspiration to all those who prevailed against adversity, and recalled the occasion in 1978 when Sir Douglas stood in the same place and won the hearts of the whole branch.

Malcolm's picture would remind him of his time as Chairman and of the good times which had occurred since the re-forming of the Branch in 1975. The management of the Branch and Committee was now in excellent hands and he looked forward to much success in the future.

A to Z

Somebody asked, which country among the the 70 or so to which the company exports, starts with X.
The preferred solution is that we do not in fact have any customers. Ouch!

Sixth formers learn about MAV

Forty boys and girls from schools over a wide area of Kent visited the Company on Tuesday November 22nd for a 'Conference on Mathematics' to hear how their 'A' level Maths studies might find an application in companies such as MAV. After being welcomed by Mr Alexander, they learnt about our product technology from Dick Collinson, Manager of FARL, and about Careers applying Mathematics from Dave Martin, Project Manager in FCD. Parties of the visitors were then shown around either MASD, CACD, ISD or ADD, then all heard talks by Chris Cole of ISD on the application of Maths in System Design, by Terry Johnson of MASD in Project Planning, and Jim read of CACD in Control Systems. Questions and discussion rounded off the day, which was organised under the auspices of Kent County Council Education Committee and coordinated by Ernie Free and staff of the Divisions involved.

Holiday Time

While we hope to continue bringing to your attention any interesting offers we hear about, you will of course remember for yourselves any particularly attractive and memorable holidays you have had with your family, friends, or even a day-trip with colleagues. Why not share your memories with us? We would like to publish your stories — whether of a recommendation, a dreadful warning (subject to laws of libel), or of a hilarious look-back on some episode. Off-beat holidays are of much interest these days, and although you may not wish to reveal the exact situation of some private paradise, we would welcome your contributions.
Clear photos can be published and will be returned.

BOXING DAY HANGOVER CURE

This test does not measure your intelligence, your fluency with words and certainly not your mathematical ability. It will, however, give you some gauge of your mental flexibility and creativity. In the three years since we developed the test, we have found few people who could solve more than half the questions in the first try. Many, however reported unexpected moments when their minds were relaxed, and some reported solving questions over a period of several days.
Take this as a personal challenge — the Christmas break lasts for several days!

Instructions

Each question below contains the initials of words that will make it correct. Find the missing words:

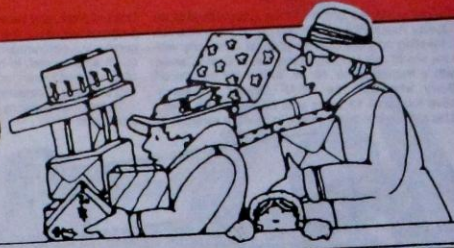
- Example: 16 = O in the P Answer: Sixteen ounces in the pound
- | | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. 26 = L of the A | 13. 3 = B.M. (S.H.T.R.) |
| 2. 7 = D of the W | 14. 4 = Q in a G |
| 3. 1001 = A.N. | 15. 24 = H in a D |
| 4. 12 = S of the Z | 16. 1 = W on a U |
| 5. 54 = C in a D (with J's) | 17. 5 = D in a Z.C. (in U.S.A.) |
| 6. 9 = P in the S.S. | 18. 57 = H.V. |
| 7. 88 = P.K. | 19. 11 = P in a F.T. |
| 8. 32 = D.F. at which W.F. | 20. 1000 = W that a P is W |
| 9. 18 = H in a G.C. | 21. 29 = D in F in a L.Y. |
| 10. 90 = D in a R.A. | 22. 64 = S on a C.B. |
| 11. 200 = P for P.G. in M. | 23. 40 = D and N of the G.F. |
| 12. 7 = S on a F.P.P. | 24. 76 = T in a B.P. |
| | 25. 13 = S on the A.F. |

Answers next month

This item appears courtesy of the Salvation Army journal "The Deliverer."

A CHRISTMAS REVERIE

By Olive Still



AS I sat dreaming the other day I thought of my childhood days;
Of Christmases spent so long ago, my mother's homely ways.
Washed fruit left drying on the hearth, ready for pudding and cake;
Chopped nuts, and sugar from candied peel—which we all longed to take.
The mixing bowl we scraped by the fire, not leaving the tiniest bit.
Why! I still remember the taste of it as here in my chair I sit.
Then the smell that flowed all over the house as the cake turned golden brown.
There was never a cake to compare with this though you searched all over the town.
But it isn't the same, is it, today? There seems not time for such larks.
It's much more convenient to pop out and buy a ready-made fruit cake from Marks.

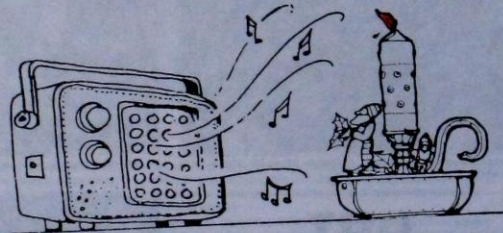


Then I remembered the thrill of the night when we took up our stockings to bed.
And oh! the joy, as we made them secure on the knobs on our old brass bed.
No ordinary stockings were these, oh, no! But the kind that fishermen wore,
For we thought if the stockings were roomy enough we'd get all we asked for—and more!
But it isn't the same, is it, today? A stocking won't hold all they'd like.
One sack, at least, is needed now to hold all their toys—plus a bike.

Then in the morning we'd waken to find Father Christmas had been in the night.
Those stockings were now all knobbly and hard. Oh! what a wonderful sight.
Too dark in the bedroom to open them there, and the lino icy cold.

No candles allowed for us up the stairs; they would cause a fire we were told
So down to the living room, shivering we'd go, where Dad had just lit the fire.
And we'd settle down on the old snip rug as the flames roared higher and higher.
And what did we find in those stockings of ours as we pulled all the packages out?
A pink sugar pig, a clockwork mouse, an apple and orange no doubt.
A special gift right there at the top, then a hanky, so pretty and gay,
And always a beautiful pinafore of white broderie anglaise.
Nuts and goodies stuffed into the toe with a bright new penny to spend.
Oh! if only this wonderful, wonderful day could go on and not ever end.
But it isn't the same, is it, today? The homes are all bright and warm.
Central heating comes on at the flick of a switch, and there's carpeting wall to wall.

Then Mam would cook a chicken for dinner for this special day of the year.
The rest of the time we'd have pork, beef or lamb, for chicken was then far too dear.
Then came the pudding, all fruity and brown, which we loved to pour custard around,
And hidden would be some small silver charms, or a sixpence, by us to be found.
But it isn't the same, is it, today? For chicken's a daily affair,
And now it seems that the pork, beef and lamb are becoming increasingly rare.



Then I roused myself from my reverie and turned the radio on.
Lovely carols for Christmas were filling the air, the same as in years long gone.
They were singing of angels, shepherds and kings, of a Baby laid in the hay.
And now my heart with happiness fills, for THIS is the same today.

CHARLES BERRY TROPHY AWARD

A couple of months ago we referred to the inauguration of an award for Quality Assurance Apprentice of the year. At a QA Managers' meeting on 26th October a small ceremony was held when the shield was formally presented to David Caney, together with a framed scroll. Mr W. Alexander introduced Charles Berry who was the USAF Quality Assurance representative for about 13 years until he retired. Mr. Berry expressed his pleasure at being invited to give the award to its

first recipient, and recalled his long involvement in company programmes from the CSA Galaxy project onwards. The company's encouragement to apprentices to enter QA was much appreciated. In reply David Caney thanked Mr. Berry whom he had known for about 2 years and the ADD managers and software engineers with whom he is now working.

To end the ceremony John France presented Mrs Berry with a bouquet.



David Caney (left) with Charles Berry and the award (A).

John Stanley MP visits Rochester

Mr. Stanley, who is Minister of State for the Armed Forces, visited MAV on 28th October in his capacity, as MP for Tonbridge and Malling, a constituency in which a large number of employees live. Hosted by Paul Rayner and Malcolm Moulton, he received a briefing on the company's activities and then toured ADD, ISD, CACD and FCD in

Engineering and production areas. He also had the opportunity of meeting local journalists. The pictures show him looking through a HUD with Keith Aaron (Development Engineer, ADD) to explain; and hearing about the work of Roly Hooper (Tester, CACD).



Keith Aaron, Development Engineer, ADD looks on as Mr. Stanley looks through a HUD.



Mr. John Stanley with Roly Hooper.

OUT WASHINGTON WAY

One of the lesser known outposts of the Company is the Redmond Office. Situated on the West Coast of America near the Canadian border, the facility is close to the main Boeing Commercial Aircraft factories. The primary function is to support the Boeing production line of 747's by servicing and modifying computers for that facility. The office also serves as a quick turn around design office for Boeing Flight Test programmes and liaison office with other US companies. The photo shows, left to right: Andy Hills and Brian Tucker visiting from FCD, Christine Conte, Peter Clarke the facility Manager, Steve Marker, Glen Hislop and Paul Oelund.



BY MONDAY WILL IT HAVE BEEN LOST, STOLEN OR BLOWN?

Have you ever considered how dangerous cash is? Of course, it's nice to feel the pound notes in your back pocket, but all too often they can find their way into other people's pockets before you intend them to.

Once you open a bank account your money is safe. You just write a cheque whenever you need cash or want to pay a bill.

It might also help to control your spending. And standing orders can solve the problem of remembering to pay regular bills, such as TV rental.

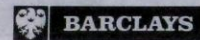
You can get cash from a Barclays bank machine at almost any time of the day or night.

To open an account just walk into the new Marconi Avionics branch and fill in an application form. We'll only ask for your name and address together with some suitable means of identification, signature and of course some money to start your account. It can be as little as £1.

Once you have a cheque book, you'll wonder how you ever did without one. You'll also qualify for the competition we are running specially for Marconi employees.

For full details of any of our services either call in and see us Monday, Thursday or Friday between 12 and 2 pm at our Marconi Avionics branch, Airport Works, Rochester or telephone Medway 406534.

RECEIVE YOUR PAY THE MODERN WAY
— YOU CAN BANK ON IT.



Trainee Computer Programmers complete their course

The 1980 intake of 'TCP's' have completed their Higher National Diploma course at Mid-Kent College, which was taken in conjunction with training in Divisions. They have now been welcomed into the Divisions as fully fledged Computer Programmers.

Graham Wade	ISD
Richard Sharpe	IND
Robert Postill	MASD
Karen Jones	MASD
Robert Elmore	FARL
Lesley Davies	ADD
Neil Balderstone	MASD
Della Burke	ATED
Ralph Edwards	Gyro
Stephen Carter	FARL
David Fulker	IND
Ian Gillis	FCD
Peter Fowler	CACD
Margaret Hellyer	IND
Robert Lindsay	ADD
Stephen Howard	MASD
Peter Holland	FARL
Jeremy Bailey	ADD

Karen Grover has also completed the course and has now joined Training Dept., as an Instructor.

Karen Grover, Graham Wade, Neil Balderstone, Della Burke, Stephen Carter, Ian Gillis, Margaret Hellyer and Peter Holland are to be further congratulated in achieving distinctions in various subjects.

NEWS A DAY TO REMEMBER

"In this issue we are publishing a selection of letters which I have received from our guests at the Queen's Award Open Day. Whilst these letters are addressed to me, they are in fact intended for all of you who, in addition to winning the two awards, put on such a marvellous show for the Open Day, and I should like to add my congratulations and thanks to the organising committees, to those demonstrating the Company's products, and to all who did so much to make it a highly successful day. I very much hope that all your families enjoyed it as much as mine did."

Jack Pateman
Managing Director



Debbie Soames and Keith Manning proudly display the Award for Technological Achievement.



On Saturday 12th November, Marconi Avionics received its 9th & 10th Queen's Awards for Industry for Export and Technology, the second time the Company has won both awards in one year. The awards were presented by Robin Leigh-Pemberton Esq., Lord Lieutenant of Kent, acting as the Queen's representative. He was joined on the stage in the canteen by the Chairman, Sir Robert Telford, the Managing Director Mr. Jack Pateman, the Mayor of Rochester-upon-Medway, Councillor Adrian Crowther, and the Bishop of Rochester, Dr David Say. Among the VIPs invited to the presentation were the Members of Parliament for the constituencies in which the Marconi establishments are located, and Trades Union leaders Mr. Terry Duffy and Mr. Eric Hammond. The audience of about 700 also included guests from the Company's customers both military and civil, and from all MAV establishments who sent their chosen representatives.

The Chairman opened the occasion by introducing The Lord Lieutenant of Kent and other guests on the stage and in the audience. He then handed over to Dr Say, the representative of 'the oldest firm in the district'. The Bishop spoke briefly on the importance of Marconi Avionics as an employer in the area in these times of high unemployment, especially the Company's complement of young people on the YTS programme. It was the turn of the Managing Director to speak next. He said that he would quickly review the Company's progress in the period covering Marconi's first Queen's Award in 1967, to the present day. He said that over the sixteen years, the Company as a whole had created 8000 jobs, enough to offset the losses caused by the closure of the dockyard.

He concluded by saying that he felt strongly that the enthusiasm, ability, and hard work of all twelve thousand members of the Company are the only reasons why we have won ten Awards; now that we are winning them two at a time it need not be long before he could again welcome the Lord Lieutenant to present the twentieth award.

The Lord Lieutenant then rose to present the awards. He said that the accolade went to the 'highest flights' of modern technology and the Queen's Awards were set up to recognise this. The scheme started in 1966 and every year there are about 1000 applications, but only the best win one. To win two is an exceptional achievement.

He then presented the awards, for technological achievement to MASD and for export achievement to the Company as a whole. They were received by Keith Manning and Debbie Soames representing MASD and by Ivor Francis and Anne Dimmick representing the Company.

In his final words, he said that the whole county and particularly the Medway Towns could be proud of Marconi.

Finally, the Mayor of Rochester spoke briefly about the importance to the area of Marconi, both as an employer and as a centre for social activities. In his own words, 'Marconi refreshes the parts other companies cannot reach'.

Philip Cogswell



Mr. Jack Pateman, Managing Director; Sir Robert Telford, Chairman; Mrs. Peggy Fenner MP; and Her Majesty's Lord Lieutenant.

It was interesting to note that the product which won the first award, a Head Up Display, contained a small digital computer, and that on the occasion of the tenth award the Company was helping many employees to buy with their own money a more powerful computer than that, to use in their own homes for the amusement and education of themselves and their families.

Another achievement was that there has been no loss of jobs through the introduction of new technology. He paid tribute to the staff for welcoming and adapting to this new technology, undertaking retraining where necessary. Out of 12,000 employees, there were over 1000 in full time training at any one time and he thanked the training departments for their effort. He also mentioned the Medway Information Technology Scheme run with the Manpower Services Commission providing a first class training for 50 young people.

Marconi were also involved in the Medway Enterprise Agency, which helps to set up new businesses. It has had a tremendous record over the past year with both setting up and advising new businesses — 277 new starts.

What so fascinated one of our younger visitors?



ONE FAMILY'S DAY

Our day began with a visit to the Training Centre, Hopewell Drive; it is here that the Company invests in looking after its future. Although somewhat detached from the main factory site, it was obvious that the message of the open-day had reached the centre, well and truly. On arrival, entry was by the management training room, tastefully decorated, along with the rest of the centre, with a number of filled flower vases. Seats were provided for the onrush of visitors awaiting a chance to speak to the representatives behind tables filled with information. Each table, manned by keen members of the group was structured, this being summarised by a flow-chart style table, mounted on attractive and very well made cardboard triangles.

In the workshop area, the wide range of machinery available to craft apprentices and trainee technicians was well presented and good food and drinks were also provided for all the visitors. Although no more than 100 people visited during the day, the general atmosphere was one of interest whilst being... relaxing!

Arriving at the main factory site in the freezing cold, the closest building was FCD. Welcoming the warmth we followed the arrows to a large ground floor display where many people lingered, with interest, around items such as self-destructive black-boxes. Complex equipment such as hardware testing systems, digital frequency analysers and 'move the little hoop along the wire without touching it' circuits were also on display.

Upstairs, however, was a touch of technology in the 'Applicon' drafting facilities: very impressive, myself being used to the more humble world of micro-processing. Not forgetting such machines, the division also set up three BBC micros illustrating, appropriately enough, flight simulation in a 747.

Leaving FCD via the goods entrance we reached the corporate exhibition in the new conference building only minutes after the presentation had ended. Confronted by large numbers of official-looking bodies, further investigation showed that both the company photographer and local press (I assume) were busy taking as many photographs as possible; they were recording the mounting of the award in its presentation case. The scroll remained uncovered for some five minutes after their departure and close inspection showed

H.M. The Queen's signature at the head of the scroll and the Prime Minister's at the bottom. The combination of space on the paper and the lack of protection gave a strong urge to add one's own 'seal of approval' to the award. A stronger urge of self-preservation did however prevail.

All the other departments that time allowed visiting put on equally impressive displays of their wares, those with recent and successful developments doing so with great enthusiasm. For example zero to forty thousand rpm in a few milliseconds (Gyro Div.) and holographic head up displays (ADD) — that's impressive.

The tower buildings were the most busy and contained some of the most interesting displays on site. They are however the most obvious buildings to visit when first entering the factory, this partly accounting for the greater number of interested faces. Refreshments again were very well provided and much appreciated, providing sustenance throughout the day.

With only ten minutes or so to spare before closing, we jumped in the car to visit the Airport Flying School; on arrival we realised that we had missed most of the 'action' but still looked at a small number of aircraft on display outside the hangars. Finally, after a thoroughly interesting and enjoyable six hours, the day drew to a close, leaving the flying school and factory works far behind, as we sped off to the dark slopes of Bluebell Hill.

Andrew Ashby

Right:
Her Majesty's
Lord Lieutenant,
the Mayor of
Rochester, and
Mrs. Peggy
Fenner MP
admiring the
MAv8000 'aircraft
of the future' in
the corporate
exhibition.



Below:
Sharon Bolt, Senior
Systems Engineer,
shows the
Lord Lieutenant
the mysteries of
AQS 901.



Above:
The Marconi Avionics Brass Band under their conductor
Ian Walton performed in the Canteen.



Above:
Nimrod
and
Sea King
took up
most of the
parking
spaces.



People of most
ages found
something to
interest them
in most
Divisions.

The people who received the presentations

Keith Manning, Chief Computer Programmer of MASD, has been with the Division and its predecessor for 15 years, originally joining Airborne Computing Division at Borehamwood.

Debbie Soames, Computer Programmer in MASD, came to Rochester after graduating at Cardiff University last year.

Anne Dimmick is Occupational Health Nursing Officer at Basildon, with 8 years service.

Ivor Francis is Senior Shop Steward for AUEW at Borehamwood.



Above:
The RAF demonstration
team were kept busy
explaining the
submarine hunting
system.



SOME MOMENTS OF MEMORABLE DAY

such as Open Day, the events and people recorded - a selection of some of the things were caught by the photographer M Keats



Left: Jan Darby, Section Leader in Central Reprographic, shows a small visitor and his parents something to do with microfilms.

Below: Airborne Display Division had the interactive television screen that answered back.

Right: A display of one of IND's computer systems with Trevor Springett, Foreman of Test.



Right: Instrument Systems Division had a drop-a-bomb-in-the-target display.



Above: A guest learns the tricky technique of soldering from IND's Foreman of Wiring, Mick Hammond.

Above right: In Gyro Division, there was the mystery of the gyroscope and the swivelling chair.



... and at the end of the day, some of our weary guests trudge home.

A PAGE OF THANKS



General Manager Glyn Thomas says thank you to his team of stalwarts for their hard work and enthusiasm during preparations and on the day, without which the success of the Queen's Award celebrations would not have been possible. Glyn, with Maurice Needham as Co-chairman of the working party, entertained them to lunch to show their appreciation.

Left to right are:-
 Bill Gostling (Asst. Canteen Manager), Harry Staff (Safety and Site Security Manager), Charles Clift (Chief Illustrator, AS & RD), Don Freeman (Deputy Works Engineer), D. Bower (Secretary to Mr. Alexander), Maurice Needham, (Market Development Executive), Helen Scott (Catering Manageress), Greta Finch (Secretary to Mr. G. Thomas), Sid Clayton (Manager, Reprographic Services), Glyn Thomas, Sid Williams (Works Engineer) and Roland Thomas (Exhibitions Manager). Unable to be present were Barry Rouse (Head of Graphics, AS & RD) and Malcolm Moulton (Company Information Executive). Glyn Thomas said that the formula of arranging for all employees to act as hosts had undoubtedly paid off. He wishes to take this opportunity of thanking the Divisional and Establishment representatives involved, and all who participated in a day to remember.

24 Bromford Drive
 Wickford
 Essex
 15 Nov 1983

JE Pateman, CBE
 Managing Director
 Marconi Avionics Ltd,
 Airport Works Rochester

Dear Sir,

I wish to express my sincere thanks for the wonderful day my wife and I had at Rochester on Saturday. I would not have believed that it would have passed so quickly, but the variety and appeal of the equipment was never a dull moment. The planning and organisation of the day deserves a first Queen's Award! There was thoughtful and considered service throughout. The generous packed meals & light refreshments and the staff's friendliness and helpfulness were a technical delight. Your wonderful staff, by their technical expertise, have shown the best of everything that even the most technical of visitors understood something of the amazing instruments on display.

I am sorry we had to leave soon after lunch - I tried to catch you but made my apologies to Bill Alexander instead. Once again, well done.

Yours sincerely,
 R. Deas-Smith
 President
 The Medway & Gillingham Chamber of Commerce

Having been away for a few days this is the first opportunity I have had to express my very grateful thanks for the magnificent ceremony last Saturday. Both my wife and I thought that it was a superb occasion and that the presentation was extremely impressive. The opportunity to meet so many people during the excellent lunch was an added bonus.

Yours sincerely,
 R. Deas-Smith
 President
 The Medway & Gillingham Chamber of Commerce

Just a brief note to tell you how much Audrey and I enjoyed last Saturday's ceremony. We both thought that the Awards Presentation was very impressive and the following reception absolutely first class. It was obvious that a tremendous amount of work had gone into the project and equally obvious that the work had paid off.

I am sorry we had to leave soon after lunch - I tried to catch you but made my apologies to Bill Alexander instead. Once again, well done.

Yours sincerely,
 A.P.G. Bridger
 Chief Executive & General Secretary
 The Medway & Gillingham Chamber of Commerce

I felt very privileged to be invited to join you all at Rochester on Saturday and witness the presentation of your Queen's Awards.

It was a splendid day and I welcomed the opportunity to renew old acquaintances and talk over matters of mutual interest. It was very apparent that the Marconi "Team" is in good heart and I would wish you all success in achieving your third double.

Very sincerely,
 George Chesworth
 Air Vice Marshal G.A. Chesworth, CBE, DFC, DAF

My apologies for the lateness in sending you this letter. My excuse is that I have had two days leave!

I wish to say a very big "thank you" for your hospitality last Saturday at such a splendid event. Apart from starting the congratulatory which are so justly deserved by all concerned, it was nice to participate in such a friendly family affair and so small the Marconi team lived up to the Egon Ronay 5 Star recommendation standard.

Yours sincerely,
 Guy W. Hinkley, M.B.E.
 Director
 The Medway Enterprises Agency Ltd.

ROBIN LEIGH-PEMBERTON, Esq.
 TORR HILL,
 SITTINGBOURNE,
 KENT ME5 6EP

14 November 1983

Sir Robert Telford CBE DL
 Chairman
 Marconi Avionics Limited
 Airport Works
 Rochester
 Kent ME1 2XX

Dear Sir Robert,

Thank you very much for having welcomed me so warmly on Saturday at Marconi Avionics. It would be inadequate for me to say simply that I thoroughly enjoyed my visit, although that is absolutely the case, because the overwhelming impression which I received throughout was everything which they do. I can only renew my congratulations to you and say what a source of pride it is for the County to have a company such as yours within its boundaries. Congratulations once again on your most exceptional double achievement!

Thank you too for such delicious hospitality at lunch. You made all your guests feel very much at home and I think it was such a good idea to combine the Award with an Open Day. It added to the occasion most appropriately.

Yours sincerely,
 Robin Leigh-Pemberton

From the Editor of Rochester

BISHOPS COURT ROCHESTER KENT ME1 1TS

15th November, 1983

Dear Sir,

It was a great pleasure to be with you again on Saturday for the presentation of the Queen's Award and to see you in the very comfortable surroundings of the Airport Works. It was a privilege to have you and I hope you enjoyed the presentation as much as we did. It was a great pleasure to have you and your wife and I hope you enjoyed the presentation as much as we did. It was a great pleasure to have you and your wife and I hope you enjoyed the presentation as much as we did.

I hope the firm will continue to go from strength to strength and that a Queen's Award will be a regular achievement and that a Queen's Award will be a regular achievement and that a Queen's Award will be a regular achievement.

Yours sincerely,
 David R. H. H.

J. E. Pateman, Esq., C.B.E.,
 Chairman
 Marconi Avionics Ltd.,
 Rochester Works,
 Kent, ME1 2XX.

100 Parkway Road
 London SE20 8SP

13th November, 1983.

Dear Sir,

It was a great pleasure to be with you again on Saturday for the presentation of the Queen's Award and to see you in the very comfortable surroundings of the Airport Works. It was a privilege to have you and I hope you enjoyed the presentation as much as we did. It was a great pleasure to have you and your wife and I hope you enjoyed the presentation as much as we did.

I hope the firm will continue to go from strength to strength and that a Queen's Award will be a regular achievement and that a Queen's Award will be a regular achievement and that a Queen's Award will be a regular achievement.

Yours sincerely,
 Terry Duffy
 President
 Arranged Union of Engineering Workers

Just a note to say how very much Rosemary and I enjoyed our Saturday with you and your colleagues on the occasion of the Queen's Award presentation.

It was a top-top show from start to finish and I congratulate you on your organisation of the event. We were pleased to have the opportunity of meeting so many old friends.

Thank you again for inviting us.

With kind regards,
 Yours sincerely,
 Chairman
 Industrial Division, Medway Chamber of Commerce

I would like to tell you how very much indeed I appreciated attending your recent Open Day associated with the honour of double presentation of Queen's Awards.

Having known various constituents of your organisation and under many guises - since forty years ago, and having myself been on the receiving end at open days at R & D Establishment, I would like to congratulate you on what was undoubtedly an outstanding success. At the same time may I ask you to accept, most gratefully, my own congratulations on your Company's awards.

Yours sincerely,
 F.A. Nigel Hitch
 Colonel F.A. Nigel Hitch, OBE, IBC, FIRE

I thought I would just drop a line to say how pleased for your company I was in witnessing the Queen's Awards being presented. It was a delightful day and extremely well organised. I personally found it quite enlightening to look over some of the work that was available for us to see.

Best wishes for the future.

Yours sincerely,
 B.D.H. Dugby
 County Fire Officer
 Kent County Council, Fire Department

J.A. Burgess
 Quality Officer
 Ministry of Defence
 RDI Office
 Flying School May (R)

Dear Sir,

It was a great pleasure to be with you again on Saturday for the presentation of the Queen's Award and to see you in the very comfortable surroundings of the Airport Works. It was a privilege to have you and I hope you enjoyed the presentation as much as we did. It was a great pleasure to have you and your wife and I hope you enjoyed the presentation as much as we did.

I hope the firm will continue to go from strength to strength and that a Queen's Award will be a regular achievement and that a Queen's Award will be a regular achievement and that a Queen's Award will be a regular achievement.

Yours sincerely,
 J.A. Burgess

25 YEARS' SERVICE

Our correspondent Lynn Roberts in Atlanta has sent a report on the occasion of **Harry Eagles'** 25-year presentation.

October 11 was an auspicious occasion at Marconi Avionics Inc. in Atlanta. It was on that date that Harry Eagles was honoured for 25 years' service with Marconi. Though a bit late in being recognized (he actually joined the Company in 1956) the clock presentation was nonetheless a very special time.

Harry Eagles is President and Chief Executive Officer of MAV Inc. Following service in the Royal Air Force, he joined the Company at Rochester to work on the design and development of aviation electronics ranging through intercom, communications, weather radar and head-up display systems.

In 1970 he was promoted to Chief Engineer of Airborne Display Division and in 1974 was appointed Technical Manager. In October 1975, Mr. Eagles was

appointed Divisional Manager of Aviation Service and Repair Division. He was appointed President of Marconi Avionics Inc. in April 1979.

We were delighted to have Glyn Thomas and John Bradley in Atlanta to participate in the presentation. The Atlanta department managers, their secretaries and of course Mrs. Eagles, were also in attendance. Though quite surprised as he walked through the door and saw many of his colleagues gathered, Mr. Eagles recovered rapidly and included a personal note in his words of appreciation by saying, "I think I am one of those lucky people privileged to enjoy his work and that has been true all through."



Harry Eagles with his wife and presentation clock. (A)

On 14th October **Frank Bevan**, Support Manager, received his award from Mr. J. Pateman watched by Mr. W. Alexander, Mr. R. Howard, Mr. P. Hearne and many friends and colleagues. Mr. Pateman made quotations from the original interview report when Frank was seeking to join the Company at Borehamwood, where he started as Installation Engineer. In 1962 he took charge of the VC10 auto-land project, the first fully automatic system to be made. He moved to Rochester in 1964, and three years later went to AS&RD. Since his appointment as MAV Support Manager he has represented the Company's interests at many international conferences. In thanking Mr. Pateman, Frank remarked that this was all leading up to his retirement next year.



Frank Bevan receives his award from Mr. J. Pateman. (A)

Production Manager of CMS, **Peter Burrows**, made a presentation on October 21st to a long serving member of CMS, **Jim Cooper**. After previous service with CAV and with a brewery, Jim first joined this Company in Servo Division, then moved to Aviation Division and to CMS when it was first formed. His wife has worked for the Company and of his five children the youngest daughter is now working in ADD.



Jim Cooper with CMS management and colleagues. (A)

Ted Herbert of IND Production Department received his long service award from Bob Ruggles, Divisional Manager. Ted started with the Company in Aviation Division, moving to IND where he has been since 1970, preceded by a spell in AEID. He has been involved in many projects including Jaguar, NCS1 and IFCS. He now works as a Planning Engineer on a number of the divisions latest contracts.



Ted Herbert and a group of colleagues.

LONG SERVICE ASSOCIATION

The 7th Annual Dinner and Dance of the GEC Long Service Association (Rochester) which took place on Saturday 29th October 1983 in the canteen was attended by 468 members and guests.

Mr. D.H. Harries presided during the dinner with Mr. P. Rayner, Assistant General Manager, Marconi Avionics Ltd, proposing the toast to the Company.

Mr. E.O. Herzfeld ex Deputy Managing Director of Elliott Automation Ltd, attended with his wife as guests and replied to the toast of the Company.

This dinner was the last one to be held which included both Marconi Avionics Ltd, and Fisher Controls Ltd, staff. As from this date each Company are now initiating

their own Long Service Association, so the closing remarks of the speakers covered this point.

At the conclusion of the dinner Mr. D.H. Harries, President of the Association, presented the retiring Hon. Secretary Mr. E.D. North with a Silver Coffee and Tea Service from the Management of the two Companies and a Barometer from his Committee colleagues in appreciation of his dedicated work to the GEC Long Service Association.

A most enjoyable evening was had by all the members and guests giving an opportunity to meet and chat with their old friends and colleagues.



Eric North (Secretary) receiving from Dave Harries (President) gifts in recognition of his service since the formation of GEC Long Service Association, Rochester. (A)



Present and recently-retired committee members pictured at the last combined LSA function. Back-row: (L-R) Ken Hyde, Alan Walters, Norman Shoebridge, Ray Beevis, Sid Randall, Bill Brunton, Bob Brooks, Bert Snowsall and John Neale. Front row: Ralph Tappenden, Eric North, Dave Harries, 'Curly' Herzfeld, Helen Pritchard and Dave Marvell. (A)

RETIREMENTS

Frank Vinten, Planning Engineer in PSD took early retirement recently. Here he is receiving from Bert Kennett, Chief Production Engineer, his gift of a Bowls Bag which will be much used in the new leisure which follows his 3 years in PSD.



Frank Vinten with Chief Production Engineer, Bert Kennett. (A)

On Friday 28th October **Muriel Thomas** retired from IS Division Library, after nearly 7 years with the Company. Muriel had been Xerox Operator for the Division during these years, being involved with Technical Publications, Proposals, etc., and had copied millions of items, sometimes as many as 240,000 per month with "everyone" wanting it "yesterday".

Before joining MAV Muriel worked for 15½ years with



Muriel Thomas and colleagues. (A)

Thorn's and was at her time of leaving Leading Hand Inspectress involved with final testing of valves.

We wish her a Happy, Healthy and long Retirement. Her parting gift from her friends and colleagues was a gold wristlet watch, presented by Keith Snelling, Technical Manager, at left of picture.

On Wednesday 5th October **Percy Bennett**, Chief Estimator in Inertial Navigation Division, was presented with a Clock and Pipe, plus a Pot Plant for his wife, by Dave Harries, Production Manager, on behalf of all his friends and colleagues throughout the Company. The presentation was to mark Percy's retirement from the Company, not from all his other activities, as he intends to carry on with his work in the TASS Union in Maidstone. Also he has many other interests on which he intends to spend more time, such as philately, gardening, coin collecting also china, junk, antiques and books. He would like to trace his family tree, do some touring and make wine. He is interested in walking, noting the wildlife, landscape painting and drawing. Percy is a governor of Mid-Kent College, does all the maintenance work on his house and if he has time likes to do some cooking.

Percy joined Fisher Controls in February 1960, transferring to IND approximately 18 months later as an Estimator under Mr. Murdock. He worked on the estimate for the Blue Steel project, also the E3 and E5 and Maritime 801 contracts in 1965. He supervised the original Jaguar estimate in 1966, and later Jaguar contracts, plus the Naval Compass Stabiliser in 1969 with subsequent contracts. He has also worked on the



Percy Bennett with Mr. D. Harries, Production Manager. (A)

Nimrod and CPS contracts in 1971. He became the IND Chief Estimator in 1972.

Percy has also spent 4 years as Rochester delegate to the Pensions Advisory Committee to the GEC Plan Pension Scheme.

Joan Smith, Clerk Typist in ISD Engineering Department, retired on 27th October after 22 years in the Company. Before that time she was in the Navy where she met her husband; they have a family of 2 sons and a daughter. Joan worked in a shop then joined Elliotts, with 9 years in ASRD Library, 2 years in Fuse Division, then in 1972 to ISD where she has worked for the Chief Draughtsman, Engineering Service Manager and lately the Design Services Manager. Joan is an active member of Chatham Suburban Club and during her retirement will spend time helping out at the veterinary surgery of her son-in-law in Rochester. She is seen here with Technical Manager Keith Snelling who made a presentation from many friends and colleagues.



Joan Smith with Technical Manager, Keith Snelling. (A)

BIG SUGGESTION SCHEME AWARD

Ken Parker, Wireman in ADD Model Shop, shows the type of PCB to which his suggestion might apply. He has been awarded £138.70 for an idea concerned with avoidance of removal of components when isolating them during test or modification procedures.

Robin Sleight, Technical Manager, made the presentation to Ken, who trained as Wireman with the company and has been at Rochester for 20 years, previously in TACO, FID inspection and ATED. His wife used to be a secretary in ADD.



CARTOON CORNER



Challenge and excitement in Wales

During the last weekend of October a team of four trainees represented MAV Rochester in the inaugural 'GEC National Competition for Young Employees' staged in Llanwrtyd Wells, Mid Wales.

The competition was loosely based on the BBC television series 'Now get out of that' albeit on a much larger scale. The trainees Wayne Moore (Apprentice MASD Eng), Danny Hemmings and Michael White (Trainee Computer Programmers in ATE and ADD respectively) and Peter Turner (Student Technologist presently at Hopewell Drive) were competing against 55 other companies for seventeen and a half consecutive hours. The event was quoted as being devised to test the common sense and ingenuity of team members as well as fitness and map reading skills. It was intended to bring representatives of different sites in an informal gathering, an aim which it must be added was achieved with great success.

Leaving on Friday morning with team manager Steve Burr (from FARL) the team travelled to Dunchurch for a briefing before arriving in Wales early Friday evening. The competition started at midnight and involved fourteen different stages each of which had a time limit of seventy five minutes, during which the site of a task had to be found from a grid reference and the task completed in order to gain points. The incidents varied in mental and physical difficulty but included abseiling, climbing, hiking, archery, scaling a bridge, building a raft, an electrical problem, a logic problem, constructing a catapult, traversing a part frozen river and then gutting, cooking, and supposedly eating a chicken.

In the varied aims of the competition there was an ideal to create an atmosphere of friendly competition by encouraging the teams to plan and work together with all the aspects of delegation, responsibility and

commitment involved. These qualities were amply shown throughout the night when temperatures dropped to at least 8°C below freezing.

Picture the scene at 2 o'clock in the morning, freezing cold and pitch black, with a bow made from tree branches trying to shoot arrows at a target 30 yards away in a clearing fenced by dense forest. The arrows had to be followed by torchlight to secure their survival, otherwise they were rescued at dawn. Other occasions to be remembered include a catapult constructed of cane and rubber bands firing a projectile in the darkness, so that the Marshal could locate it with fast fading torch batteries to decide the distance it travelled to allocate points per metre. Also running through a river after reaching a task on the wrong bank and crossing a treacherous swamp with frozen, rusty oil drums and splintered wood while one team member lacked clothing on one leg after an argument with barbed wire. Narrow squeak that!

As the competition finished our exhausted and jubilant team (for just finishing) returned to the local hotel for the presentation and a party. Previous to the competition each team was required to complete an essay describing how the £500 prize money would be used if they won. Our team's essay, explaining their donation to 'Toys for Tots' received commendation for being among the top 10 entries.

When the final results were issued the Rochester team were placed a commendable 14th of the 56 entries. The competition was won by Ruston Gas Turbines with our arch rival MAV Borehamwood being placed 15th and 40th. It would be fair to say 'a good time was had by all' in meeting the varied aims of the competition and thanks must be given to Steve Burr, the team manager who was a marshal on the course for 17½ hours and to Derek Harvey, Training Officer, who initially organised the MAV team.

Wayne Moore

ADD DISPLAY ATHLETIC PROWESS

The ADD Superstars competition was run again in October. The event (better known amongst competitors as Superjerks) took place over 5 days and basically repeated last year's successful formula. Each event was overseen by the organising committee consisting of Jim Beane, Alan Ward, Harry Harper Wilkinson and Colin Tattersall. 36 stalwarts entered the competition and with last year's winner not competing a new champion would emerge.

A new points system ensured that the competition for places was maintained from 1st to last place.

Brian Harris showed the consistency, tenacity and fitness required to win the Competition and is truly worthy of the title ADD Superstars Champion 1983.

Congratulations must go to Brian Harris and to all competitors who so enthusiastically supported the event; the final placings and a blow-by-blow account of the various ordeals will appear next month.

Head-up Superstar and runners-up (L to R) Colin Tattersall 2nd, Steve Mills 4th, Brian Harris 1st, Harry Harper-Wilkinson 3rd and Cathy Moran, further down the list. Photo—Jim Beane.



On a recent journey by air to the U.S.A., a very senior member of management had a small mishap within a very short time of take-off.

The above drawing of the aircraft's interior gives no clue to the airline involved.

Sports and Social Club round up

Computer Users Club

Are you interested in home computing? Do you want to learn? Could you be bitten by the bug??

If so then the newly formed section of the Social Club can help. We can provide you with all the necessary equipment at greatly reduced prices, and information to get you started, to build up your system and put you in touch with others with the same interest. This will enable you to share computing experiences with others and, hopefully, speed you to a greater understanding of computers.

The main aims of the club are to:

- provide discount purchase facilities and rapid deliveries
- facilitate communication between User Groups
- advise new members of User Groups to contact
- answer as far as possible members' queries
- assist members in the event of equipment failure
- provide a newsletter at regular intervals

It is intended that by members forming User groups, whether the groups are divisional or inter-divisional, many of the individual's questions could be answered by other members of the group and if not then the club could assist. To ensure that the club is run in the best interests of the members, representatives from the groups are committee members. All new groups forming will have the opportunity to propose a representative such that they can present the view of the User Groups members as to how they feel the club should run and what its aims should be.

In the future we hope to create a large software library and technical reference. Build up a peripheral stock; printers, paper, discs etc., and give demonstrations of machines for members. Also in the future, it is hoped that the club could provide incentives to members or groups, to develop and complete projects. Obviously for an undertaking of this size it is important to obtain a good response in order for the club to realise its full potential in serving all members requirements and furthering computer appreciation and applications.

At present our purchase facilities enable the buying of any equipment, hardware or software that you would require. If you need information on sales and prices or particular equipment then let us know by request on the form for membership below and we will contact you presently. One of the offers to members is the M.W.S disc drive for the BBC model B as below.



MWS Dual 400K Drives (Total 800K) — £375 + VAT.

Also available, similar but single 400K drive — £221 + VAT.

A single 200K drive, double sided, will be available in mid-January for £159 plus VAT. A centronics type printer with friction/tractor feed 80 c per sec etc. will be available for £185 plus VAT.

If you feel you could benefit, or contribute, then fill in the club membership below. We will be glad of your support.

MAV/BP KENT COMPUTER USERS CLUB MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM

Name:..... Div.:..... TEL:

MAV/BP Club Membership No.

Please enter make and model computer presently owned or proposed.

Do you own any peripherals? Please specify:-

Computing interests:- (or comments)

Fee: £2.00 For membership from 1st October to 31st September.

Please send completed forms to: Mr. G. Pritchard, GYRO Eng.

Members who have paid £1 already will be required to pay the extra £1 on or before 1st March.

If you are not an MAV/BP club member or do not wish to join the computer users club at the moment please still indicate if you are interested in joining. Remember you don't have to own a computer to join, your immediate family may wish to have access to the users club facilities, associate members will be free but subject to club constitution and rules.



Sports and Social Club round up



'65 Club

At the October meeting held in the Canteen four new members were welcomed, and greetings given to members whose birthday and wedding anniversaries were celebrated during the month.

After Bingo, the entertainment was provided by the Marconi Concert Brass Band, under the direction of Ian Walton. An hour long programme was gone through, ranging among the Shows, Dances, Band pieces and Popular songs.

After the business in November, we had the pleasure of welcoming a further six new members, and afforded the usual greeting. This was followed by a programme performed by the "Wallace Collection", which was much enjoyed and appreciated. Final details for the Christmas Party were made, and menu sheets completed for the guidance of catering staff.

On both occasions the Raffles were followed by a "double Bingo", before closing at 10 p.m.

MAV/BP Rugby Club

The Marconi-Avionics Rugby Team started the season in tremendous style at New Ash Green on the 30th October.

Only 10 of the team were suffering from hangovers, three more had no kit and the other two spent half the morning looking for the pitch.

Despite this the team played a magnificent first half and showed a lot of promise. Unfortunately they became victims of their own enthusiasm and trudged off at half time 12-0 down.

In a closely fought second half New Ash Green had the good fortune to score four lucky tries and a real fluke of a drop goal to make the final score 35-0.

The team recorded their first victory away to Sheppey on the 20th November. After falling behind to an early try the superior forward play of MAV/BP set up two tries for the No. 8, bringing the half time score to 8 points to 4 in Marconi's favour.

In the second half the 'N's enjoyed alot of good ball from the pack and it wasn't long before Centre, Martin Weller, scored to make it 12-14. Sheppey hit back within 10 minutes when bad tackling allowed them back into the game. Marconi's turned on the power again and sealed victory with tries from Winger Paul Pledger, playing his first game since leaving school, and fly half Ian Simpson. A big cheer went up as, at last, a try was converted. The final score — Sheppey 10, MAV/BP 22.

Results to date

New Ash Green	35	—	MAV/BP	0
Medway	22	—	MAV/BP	8
Sheppey	10	—	MAV/BP	22

Anyone wishing to join the new club may phone either:
Stuart Cox — Int. Extn. 2250
Martin Weller — Int. Extn. 2950
Ian Brimelow — Int. Extn. 2609



CLUB-HOUSE ATTRACTIONS

Reminder of Christmas and New Year Arrangements

Christmas Eve
Club open 10 am — 2 pm (visitors 25p) and from 6 pm (visitors £1)
Swimming Pool open 11.00 am — 1.00 pm.
All sports facilities close at 1.00 pm

Christmas Day
Club closed all day

Boxing Day
Club bar open 11.00 am — 2.00 pm
All other facilities closed.

New Years Eve
Same arrangements as Christmas Eve

New Years Day
All facilities open including Swimming Pool, for usual Sunday hours



CHRISTMAS EVE DANCE

with
MESCALERO
7.45 — 11.45 pm

NEW YEAR'S EVE DANCE

with
THE RODNEY BRIDGES QUARTET
and
TRICIA DAWN
8 pm — 12.15 am

Interval 9.00 — 10.30. The A & A Disco

CHILDREN'S DISCO

Friday 6th January 7-10 pm
Tickets on sale at Ballroom Door



NEW YEAR'S DANCE

with
"THE INCROWD"
Saturday 14th January 1984
7.45 — 11.45 pm

ESSEX RADIO ROADSHOW

DJ PAUL LEE
with

ELECTRIC AFFAIR
(Robotic Dancers)

Give-away prizes, T-shirts etc.
Friday 20th January 8.00 — 12.30 pm



PARLOUR DERBY EVENING

Saturday 21st January 8 pm

EIGHT FILMED HORSE RACES
(Betting Slips 20p each)

FAMILY FUN NIGHT

Disco & Games with Keith Howard

Saturday 28th January 1984
8 — 11 pm

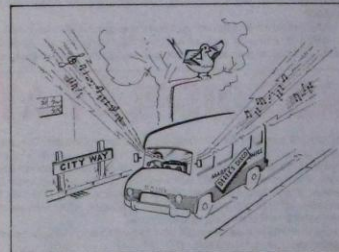
'JEZREELS' BARN DANCE

Saturday 4th February 8-11 pm

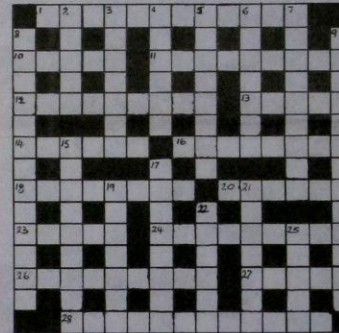
CHILDREN'S DISCO

Friday 3rd February 7-10 pm

Tickets on sale at Ballroom Door



CROSSWORD No. 57



ACROSS

- Verbosely is the sign we have it. (4-2-3-3)
- Mohammedan dark eyed nymph. (5)
- Changing various items, more space? (9)
- Keeper of the purse, not chancellor. (9)
- A small surface or face. (5)
- The art or style of undress. (6)
- Water carrier, of a sort. (5)
- Bearing a state of poverty. (8)
- A tough, turbulent woman. (6)
- An inner court, in Spain. (5)
- Killer hit, female. (5-4)
- Takes care of back end. (9)
- One doing an easy canter. (5)
- A school for young children. (12)

DOWN

- Habituate or accustom. (5)
- Two of a kind, together. (4-3)
- A distant wailing. (3-3)
- Space between base and ceiling. (8)
- Long necked animal. (7)
- Delicate material used in table ware. (4-5)
- After closing a public place, isolated. (4-2-3-4)
- They look to him to score goals. (6-7)
- Where the riders make the ashes fly. (4-5)
- Where the canary resides. (4-4)
- Potent drink, from dark hedgerow fruit. (4-3)
- A diver's respiratory apparatus. (7)
- A pekingese?. (3-3)
- Slight fault or error. (5)

For amusement only

Solution to Crossword No. 56

ACROSS

- Object; 5. Trace; 10. Ninepin; 11. Tombola; 12. Obol; 13. Airline; 15. Lorry; 16. Esperanto; 18. Chameleon; 21. Caste; 23. Flipper; 25. Hansoms; 26. Extorts; 27. Usurer; 28. Cross section.

DOWN

- Bonjour; 3. Euphony; 4. Tent; 5. Tetra; 6. Admirer; 7. Erosion; 8. Instill; 9. Made-to-measure; 14. Mire; 17. Pen; 18. Coffee; 19. Asiatic; 20. Esparto; 21. Conduit; 22. Scorpio; 24. Roses; 25. House.

Photographs taken by the Staff Photographer will be acknowledged in the following way: (A) Alan Keats

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