

GEC AVIONICS

Rochester Establishment

# NEWS

House Journal of GEC Avionics Limited

No. 83 May 1987

## Yet another 'Double' in Queen's Awards for GAv



AIRBORNE DISPLAY DIVISION



ELECTRO-OPTICAL SURVEILLANCE AND AIRBORNE DISPLAY DIVISIONS

The announcement of Queen's Awards for achievements in both Export and Technology in the same year, marks the third occasion on which this great honour has been received by GEC Avionics.

1969 and 1983 were the previous times, and the total number of individual Awards is now 12. And this year's Technology Award is the first to be won for work done in conjunction with a Ministry of Defence Research Establishment which itself receives an Award, also the first to involve both Rochester and Basildon divisions.

**Airborne Display Division**, now part of Navigation Group, has won the Queen's Award for Export for electronic display systems for aircraft, including head up displays. GEC Avionics is the largest supplier of this class of equipment to the very demanding United States aircraft industry,

and supplies customers in aviation world-wide. Over the past three years, well over 90% of the total output of ADD has been exported.

**Electro-Optical Surveillance Division**, Basildon, part of Sensors Group, together with Airborne Display Division, has won the Queen's Award for Technology jointly with the Flight Systems (Farnborough) Department of the Royal Aircraft Establishment. Electro-Optical Surveillance Division is a leader in the field of thermal imaging, in particular the forward-looking infra-red (FLIR) systems used in aircraft for night flying. The Division has successfully developed the UK's cost-saving Thermal Imaging Common Modules equipment, which has won large orders at home and overseas and is in quantity production at Basildon.

There is an account of



EOSD's achievement in reaching the delivery of the 1000th set of night vision equipment to the MoD well ahead of schedule, on page 8.

The Technology Award is for the successful development by GAv and the RAE of night vision systems for fixed

wing aircraft, which enable the pilot, literally, to see in the dark and operate as in daytime. This greatly increases the operational effectiveness of aircraft and has opened up a new world market. GEC Avionics has already won major orders for elements of the system for seven aircraft programmes

### GAv/BP Kent Club, Hoo

## Upstairs Restaurant & Bar Lounge

The new facilities at the Club House are opening at 7 pm on Tuesday 12th May. Months of planning and reconstruction under the guidance of the Management Committee have given a new look to the whole upstairs area, where members and their families and guests can enjoy a high standard and inexpensive meal, for that special occasion or 'just for a change'.

To begin with, the Restaurant and Lounge Bar will be open for dinner Tuesday to Saturday and at Sunday lunchtime.

A leaflet, designed to be kept for reference, is enclosed in this GAv News, summarising the variety of dishes to be provided by Chef Malcolm.

For bookings, telephone Medway 251492 between 9.30 and 5.00 on weekdays, or Medway 250402 evenings and weekends, in bar hours.

As a result of the survey taken with the last issue of GAv News, the Committee have decided to allocate 10 of the 15 tables to non-smokers, 25% of the membership voted, about 750 not in favour of smoking and about 390 in favour of part-smoking. Only about 20 asked for smoking throughout the area.

All aspects of the first few weeks of operation will be kept under review, as of the associated snack facilities downstairs, so do let the Club officers know what you think. We hope to keep readers and members up-to-date here.

*Pictured in the cockpit of the RAE's night trials Hunter aircraft, fitted with GEC Avionics night vision equipment, are three key members of the RAE/Industry team (left to right): Steve Flickering, Project Manager of GEC Avionics Electro-Optical Surveillance Division, Basildon, Flt Lt Mervyn Evans, night trials project pilot RAE Farnborough and Alan McEndoo, Project Manager of GEC Avionics Airborne Display Division, Rochester.*

*The HUD can just be seen through the windshield.*

in the USA, three in the UK and one in the Netherlands.

Other parts of GAv have supported this work in various ways. For example, Flight Automation Research Laboratory has made a significant contribution working in collaboration with the RAE in providing the Programmable Raster Display Generators and Head Down Displays for use in its development trials, and supporting its equipment at Farnborough over a number of years.

We congratulate the two Queen's Award winning divisions and all the people concerned with them in their success.

## Fit for Work Award 1986

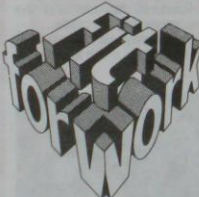
The second Fit for Work Award won by the company was presented by Her Majesty's Lord Lieutenant for the County of Kent, Mr. Robin Leigh-Pemberton, to our Managing Director Bill Alexander, at a ceremony in the Conference Suite. This was held in the presence of many distinguished guests including the Mayors of Rochester-upon-Medway and Gillingham, local MPs Dame Peggy Fenner and Andrew Rowe, senior officers from the Trade Unions and local organisations concerned with the disabled, as well as the sponsors, the Manpower Services Commission.

Also presented were the Fit for Work Emblem which was received by Julie Stott,

Welfare Officer, and the Certificate, received by Angie Gilbert, Viewer from ADD.

A welcoming address to the guest of honour and all others present — who included many representatives from divisions, including disabled people and their friends and supervisors — was given by Mr. E. Carver, Chairman of the Kent Committee for the Employment of Disabled People. In his own address, the Lord Lieutenant paid tribute to the company and the colleagues who work with and help our disabled people. Bill Alexander, responding to the presentations, made the Keynote to the occasion: Disability is not inability.

After the formal event, the guests and their company



hosts were able to see an exhibition in the Visitors' Dining Room, and the day ended with Buffet Lunch in the Lounge Bar.

The awards are given to chosen companies by the Manpower Services Commission, in recognition of outstanding achievements in the employment of disabled people.



*Left to right: Julie Stott, Bill Alexander, Angie Gilbert and Her Majesty's Lord Lieutenant for the County of Kent, Mr. Robin Leigh-Pemberton.*

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

### GEC Avionics News

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



## Trade and Industry Minister Meets PCSD

During the exhibition Power UK '87 at the Kensington Exhibition Centre in February, Power Conversion Systems Division received a visit from Mr. John Butcher MP, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Industry.

Underlining the importance of Power UK '87 which is dedicated to Power Supplies and the Power Supply Industry, John Butcher officially opened the exhibition. Following the opening

he was escorted round and introduced to various exhibitors by Paul Cooper, Marketing Executive of PCSD who in his capacity as a member of the Power Supply Manufacturers Association Management Committee had the honour of hosting the Industry Minister.

Our picture shows Mr. Butcher being shown various PCSD produced Power Supplies by Paul Cooper (right) and Peter Harvey, Product Manager (left).



## THE GEC AVIONICS (ROCHESTER) LONG SERVICE ASSOCIATION

### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

FRIDAY 26th JUNE 1987

AT 7.00 pm

LOUNGE BAR - MAIN CANTEN

#### AGENDA

- (1) CHAIRMAN'S REPORT
- (2) SECRETARY'S REPORT
- (3) COMMITTEE
- (4) ANY OTHER BUSINESS

YOUR CURRENT COMMITTEE MEMBERS ARE:

R. Brooks  
J.M. Collins  
J.E. Farbrace  
D.A. Freeman  
J.W. Goodhand  
K.W. Hyde  
D. Marvell

In accordance with the constitution two members of the committee retire each year.

Mr. K.W. Hyde and Mr. R. Brooks retire at the A.G.M. and have signified their willingness to stand for re-election.

Please ensure that nominees for election are proposed and seconded and that the Secretary is notified by Friday 12th June 1987. It is essential that the proposer checks that the nominee is prepared to serve on the committee.

There will be no distribution of individual notification of the Annual General Meeting as in previous years.

Members wishing to attend the above should notify the Secretary by 12th June 1987 in order that Canteen arrangements can be made regarding numbers for the traditional Strawberry Tea.

The following new members have been welcomed into the association recently.

P.E. Carruthers	ISD
F.J. Goble	CAC
F.N. Brightley	CAC
A.R. Daniels	ADD
D. Lucas	ADD
A. Hall	CMS
J. Kent	CAC
B.J. Judges	GSD

## Editor's Message Board

Readers will probably have noticed that over the last couple of years or so, your GAV News has been appearing with more pages but rather less often - overall the actual number of pages of the newspaper has remained the same totalled over each year. This has tended to reflect a change in the rate and frequency at which the different types of news arrive, and with a most encouraging trend of increase of 'big' items coming in from contributors. Each issue attempts to provide a good balance rather than a bias towards any particular group - after all there are so many different interests among our 6000-plus readers.

I believe that the News' policy of highlighting People, Personalities and Interests with the aim of interesting and informing rather than educating, is well served by the variety of items sent in by or on behalf of individuals and groups. 'Company' news is of course of equal importance.

#### But what do you think?

More editions again but probably smaller - the amount of news tends to remain fairly steady? New features, which may need to be contributed and require the voluntary effort of some of you - remember it's your paper?

Let's have your ideas and suggestions - and criticisms, preferably constructive.

Let's also not forget the part played by the divisional liaison officers, listed above. To them our thanks, but additional 'ears to the ground' are always welcome.

And remember - if I don't hear your news I can't print it!

I'm planning six more issues between now and Christmas, so maybe you'd like to let me know if that's the right sort of number and how they should be filled, whether different in any way to the present form or in the same way. And that time sees the completion of ten years of publication - so lets celebrate.

Write or phone - or I can visit you at a time agreeable to your supervisor.

But let's hear what you think!

Editor

## MASD Production Dept raise cash for Baby Unit

By running various sorts of raffles and competitions over the last few months, staff of MASD Production department have managed to raise over £200 for the Special Care Baby Unit at All Saints' Hospital.

Seen here presenting the money to Theresa Philpott (Sister-in-charge) are Brenda Cardwell representing the shop floor area and Dave Betts representing the office.

A letter of thanks was received a few days later explaining that the money was to be used in setting up a fifth and possibly a sixth Intensive Care Cot.



## Blood Transfusion Service

The recent visit of the Transfusion Service resulted in a total of 752 units of blood being given.

Thanks have been received for this excellent result, and for management allowing their regular attendance.

Diary note: next session is planned for 14-19 September.

GEC SUGGESTION SCHEME  
(we pay more than pennies for your thoughts!)

## MP sees Young Trainees



Mr. Dunn tries the pilot's control with the help of Ian Wells (TCP), Paul Lynick (2nd yr. Elec. Tech. Apprentice), Matthew Buels (YTS) and Kathleen Dunford (Commercial Trainee).

Robert Dunn MP, Under Secretary of State for Education and Science, who is MP for Dartford, has many interests in common with our company, including training and our support for drug awareness among young people. A visit was arranged to acquaint him briefly with the company's business and our activities of more specific interest to him as Under Secretary of State. He was accompanied by his Assistant Private Secretary, Kevin Aitchison.

Bill Alexander and John Bradley gave a briefing on the company and its commitment to Training, Welfare and the Community, and this was followed by a tour of ISD

under the guidance of Fred Mackley, then Technical Manager. Mr. Dunn met four of the division's trainees, Priti Patel (Commercial Trainee), Chris Bower (TCP), Darren Hoadley (4th yr. Mech. Tech. Apprentice) and Darren Morley (YTS), with their supervisors. Afterwards, trainers from CACD - pictured - described to Mr. Dunn a small exhibition of the computers and pilot's control stick for the fly-by-wire system of the EAP. Alan Fisher of CACD organised this, with Richard Watters.

After a short meeting with local press representatives, Mr. Dunn lunched with senior company managers.

## Hoo Freezer '87

The Hoo Freezer is a dinghy race held in the middle of winter on the River Medway; it is a major sailing event and attracts sailors from all parts of the South of England. The race is some 2 to 3 hours long and justifies its name; often snow and ice have to be removed from the boats prior to sailing, and ropes have to be soaked in salt water to make them pliable. This year the race was held on the 15th February when the weather was relatively kind; there was no snow or frost but the wind was in the North and it blew cold across the river.

Starting at the Hoo Ness Yacht Club, the dinghies raced downstream through Gillingham Reach to the Kingsnorth power station, back upstream to the Medway Yacht Club, then downstream again to the power station before returning, against an ebbing tide, to the finish at Hoo Ness Yacht Club.

Dynamics Group were represented by Clive Everest and Peter Belcher from ISD together with Gordon Belcher from GAV. Clive nor-

mally sails at Bewl Water which is one of the largest inland sailing areas in the South of England with magnificent facilities. In the summer, Peter and Gordon sail from the Wilsonian Club which is at Hoo on the Medway, and sail on the lake at Mote Park in the winter.

Clive in an International Moth and Peter in a Laser, got away well at the start. Peter, who was second in the '86 Freezer, tried to cover Clive, theoretically the Laser should be faster but in the conditions prevailing, Clive shot into the lead.

With the wind varying between force 1 and force 4 the sailing was exciting though the cold water spraying over the sailors on the fast reaches took away some of the pleasure. On the long beats hands became numb as the ropes restricted blood circulation and the body's defence mechanism issued pain warning signals. Wet cold feet also became numb as the race wore on.

The leaders took some 2 hours to complete the course which included hazards such as wind shadows from

dredgers, coasters sailing through the race course and light winds on the leg of the course which was in the lee of the Upnor bank opposite the dockyard.

After the race the sailors crowded into the Hoo Ness Yacht Club's small changing room for hot showers to thaw out frozen hands and feet. This, followed by hot food and drink, brought on the usual euphoric post-sailing glow in which everyone declared he would have won if only the wind had not shifted so perversely.

In dinghy racing each type of boat has a handicap rating

and when the elapsed times had been corrected for this Clive was the overall winner from 73 other boats, with Peter the first Laser in 12th position and Gordon in the middle of the fleet at 33rd.

Kent has a wealth of dinghy sailing facilities ranging from lake sailing at Mote Park, Maidstone, through to sea sailing at Whitstable. Anyone wishing to try this sport should contact one of the many sailing clubs in Kent or any of the sailors in the Company, e.g.

Gordon Belcher - GAV - Ext. 3620

Clive Everest - ISD - Ext. 3416

Maurice Chapman - PSD - Ext. 54 (New Road)

### Post Script

As well as individual competitions, the Hoo Freezer includes competitions for teams of three boats. We, the dinghy sailors of the Dynamics Group, challenge the Navigation Group to form a dinghy team and sail against us in next year's Freezer. Peter Hearne has, for many years, sailed a catamaran off Whitstable. Can he now perform the ulti-

mate in motivation by getting his men to follow him through freezing cold water, ice and snow to challenge the proven record of the Dynamics Group?

Gordon Belcher



# How else can you do so much good for just 10p a week?

Last year 280 of your colleagues had 10p a week automatically deducted from their wage/salary.

The money collected, together with a generous contribution from the company, went to our Central Charity Fund who distributed a total of

**£4330**

among 76 local/charitable causes.

**This year, with your help, we could do even more.**

### Central Charity Fund AGM

The Annual General Meeting of the Fund was held in the Conference Rooms on Wednesday 1 April 1987. Peter Hearne was welcomed as the new President in place of Bill Alexander, who was standing down following his appointment as Managing Director, GEC Avionics Limited. Mr. Alexander was a prime mover in the foundation of the Fund and had always taken a keen and active interest in its activities. Members of the Fund, particularly the Committee, are grateful to him for his help. Mr. Hearne showed that he intended to take his new duties seriously by making a number of constructive suggestions for making the Fund more effective.

It is clear that the help which the Fund can give is limited by its income which primarily depends on the number of its members, although the Company makes a significant contribution each year - to be increased to £1,250 this year. The aim, therefore, must be to encourage more employees to join. It only costs 10p per week. Further details and copies of the constitution and application forms can be obtained from the Personnel Department.

Remember, any member can nominate a charity they particularly would like us to help. This can also be done in conjunction with the cut-out form below for anyone wishing to join the scheme.

In the last year donations of £4,330 were shared among 76 local charitable causes.

Simply complete this form - the good you'll be doing starts straight away

**GEC AVIONICS, ROCHESTER**

**Central Charity Fund**

I apply to become a member of the Central Charity Fund and will abide by the rules laid down. I authorise the deduction of an amount equivalent to 10p per week from my wage/salary to be paid to the fund.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name (printed): \_\_\_\_\_ Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Clock Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Please return this form to your Manager/Foreman when completed who will pass it to the Personnel Department.

### GEC Avionics, Rochester Central Charity Fund Receipts - Payments Account Year Ended 31st March 1987

	£	£
Balance at Bank - 1.4.86		1959.68
<b>Receipts - Contributions 1.4.86-31.3.87</b>		
from Employees	1434.60	
from the Company	1000.00	
Tax refund - Deed of Covenant	408.45	
Bank Interest Received	95.46	
		<b>2938.51</b>
		4898.19
Donations		4330.00
Balance at Bank - 31.3.87		<b>568.19</b>
Deposit Account	551.02	
Current Account	17.17	
Membership at 01.04.86 - 264		<b>£568.19</b>
at 31.03.87 - 280		

## LINDA'S ITeC PRIZE



Linda receives her Prize Certificate and cheque from the Mayor. (B)

Linda Murr, Word Processor Operator in ISD Technical Publications, joined us last year after completing a one-year training course at Medway Information Technology Centre (ITeC) in Gillingham. Her achievements there won her one of the four GEC Avionics Prizes which are awarded by the company, one of the principal sponsors of ITeC.

In March ITeC's Annual Prizegiving was held in the Conference Suite. Local dignitaries, MPs, guests from Kent County Council Education Dept, led by Mr. W.J. McNeill MBE, Chairman of the Education Committee, and ITeC staff witnessed the ceremony when The Right Worshipful the Mayor of Rochester-upon-Medway, Cllr Richard Andrews, handed out the prizes. Linda received the Prize for Best

Modern Office Technology Trainee.

Medway ITeC has been running for nearly four years, sponsored by GAv, Kent County Council, the Manpower Services Commission and Rochester and Gillingham Councils. It provides training mainly for young school leavers, but also for older individuals or employers, in the latest techniques in Information Technology and computing. The Board of ITeC is headed by Dr. Peter Carrington, MASD's Technical Manager, as Chairman, with Mike Tomkins (GSD) and Mark Holloway (Training) as members.

The success of the training provided has enabled almost 100% of the young people completing the course to obtain employment locally.

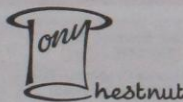
## IT'S MAGIC!



Tony Hanscombe, a long serving member of the Medway Magical Society, was recently honoured by being elected President for 1987/88. Over the last few years Tony has been an active committee member of this

society, holding the post of Secretary and together with the committee has been responsible for the monthly meetings. This has involved Tony meeting many stars of magic, the most notable being Paul Daniels and his assistant Debbie McGee who were guests at the annual dinner/dance last October.

By day Tony can be found working as a Senior Logistics Engineer in CACD but after work he changes into:



to perform at children's parties with his popular magic and balloon modelling show.

Then at weekends, mysterious boxes are loaded into his silver Astra and Tony is off again. It may be to a party at which he organises the games before tea and magic afterwards, or to a fête to perform magic and sell his balloon animals. Whatever the occasion there is always the happy sight of children enjoying themselves.

# Brighton Polytechnic Lecturers visit our Company

11 Lecturers from Brighton Polytechnic visited Rochester as a link with a college with which we have had strong connections for sponsorship and recruitment for many years.

After an initial welcome from John Ainley, Personnel Manager, the visitors were given lectures on Avionics in the Cockpit by Dick Collinson, Manager of FARL, Training in GEC Avionics by

David Perry, Manager, Training Services; and Graduate Recruitment and the 'Milk-round' by Mark Green, Personnel Officer responsible for Graduate Recruitment.

Following the lectures, the party of visitors were shown our Central Manufacturing Services by Peter Burrows, Manager and Jim Crick, Production Superintendent. They were also shown round

the Quality Assurance Department of Instrument Systems Division by John France, QA Manager.

During lunch our visitors were able to converse with members of staff they had met in the morning and those that would be conducting visits to other Divisions in the afternoon.

Having fully replenished their energy, they saw Computer Aided Design within

the Engineering Department of Combat Aircraft Controls Division, conducted by Richard Watters, Chief Engineer, followed by a tour of Production Engineering in Avionics led by David Childs, Production Manager of Airborne Display Division.

Our guests reassembled in Conference Room 3 for tea and exchange of views.

The photographs show:-



"Curly" Childs explaining the HUD to some of the lecturers.



In CACD, the visitors saw the work of Stephan Pedder, sponsored Student Technologist at Brighton, and Simon Thornton, Project Engineer.

## Royal Society of Arts Awards

1986  
IS  
INDUSTRY  
YEAR

One of the activities during Industry Year was a series of School/Industry Co-operation programmes. In March Mr. Alexander hosted an award-giving ceremony in the Conference Suite, at which representatives from 11 schools throughout Kent and 53 participating employers received the RSA's nationally-recognised Award Certificates.

In his keynote speech, Bill Alexander reminded the audience that the Royal Society of Arts had established three main areas for action in 1986, the designated Industry Year. These were to increase the community's awareness of Industry's role, to strengthen links between education and industry, and to identify specific action within industrial companies. In these areas he hoped that the lessons learned would continue to be applied in each succeeding year and that the links formed with the schools would remain strong. The projects represented in the evening's presentations were suspected to be the tip of a big

iceberg; many other examples of schools/industry liaison might not have been put forward for an award.

The projects singled out, as representatives of the whole, ranged from visits by firms to schools, to reciprocal visits to industry, and the carrying out of specific projects involving pupils and staff, both together and separately.

In one case for example, a school went through all the processes of designing and marketing a new product with expert industrial tuition; in another, school visits led to essays on design and an exhibition at the school of its activities.

Another case, which did not get submitted, actually involved a team of pupils working on a specific 'design and build' project within industry.

Opportunities were also given to teachers to work for a period in industry, (a benefit which works both ways). Also for teachers, evening courses on computer programming and applications, and on elec-



Christine Bridges receives one of GAv's awards from Brian Oatley, County Education Officer.

tronics, have been tremendously successful and not only for science teachers either.

As far as GAv were concerned, the four projects were with Winston County Junior School, Chatham - Ernie Free of Training received the company's award certificate from Brian Oatley, KCC's County Education Officer. George Bull of ADD for the Chatham Grammar School for Boys project;

Christine Bridges of ISD for the Christchurch Secondary School for Girls one; and Paul Warren of MASD for the Miers Court Primary School, Rainham scheme which has already been described in these pages.

The ceremony, which was chaired by Margaret Pearson, KCC's Inspector for the Schools/Industry link, was concluded by a short address from the County Education Officer.

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## Four Nations form a Team for Flight Control GAv to lead European Team for new European Fighter

GEC AVIONICS LIMITED, BODENSEWERK GERÄTETECHNIK GmbH of Germany, AERITALIA AVIONIC SYSTEMS AND EQUIPMENT GROUP of Italy and INISEL of Spain have signed collaboration agreements to bid for the very advanced Flight Control System (FCS) which will form a key element of the new European Fighter Aircraft (EFA).

The European team, which will be led by Combat Aircraft Controls Division, is unique in possessing the necessary experience in "fly-by-wire" (FBW) technologies which will be at the heart of EFA's design. CACD has worked with Bodenseewerk Geräte-technik and Aeritalia GEQ on various projects during the past 20 years, including the European Tornado's FBW and digital auto-pilot systems, and FBW for the Italian/Brazilian AM-X aircraft.

Ron Howard, Managing Director, Dynamics, says "The team is confident that it can fulfil all the exacting requirements for completing the development programme for the EFA FCS, utilising the best of European technology, providing equipment at the lowest cost and weight and assuring the very high levels of safety required."

CACD was responsible for the FBW system which has been so successfully demonstrated on the BAe FBW Jaguar aircraft, the world's first true digital FBW aircraft, and the more advanced system now flying on the Experimental Aircraft Programme (EAP). In developing the FBW system for EAP, GEC Avionics has continued its long standing collaboration with Bodenseewerk and Aeritalia GEQ.

GAv has continued the long standing collaboration with Bodenseewerk and Aeritalia (GEQ) in developing the most advanced FBW system now flying in EAP, the first aircraft ever designed specifically for full authority FBW (with no reversionary modes).

The FCS to be proposed by the team for EFA will reflect the best "mix" of the combined technological developments and take full advantage of the considerable resources available within the four collaborating companies. The division of work will fully reflect the individual nations' share agreed for the EFA programme.

## FARL Management Presentation 1987



Members of the IKBS team, Simon Lucas, Gabrielle Liddy, Imelda Wortley and Steve Baker demonstrate their AI Workstation.

Once again the Flight Automation Research Laboratory opened its doors to the management and ministry visitors to demonstrate the year's progress in research.

This three day event was held from Monday, 30th March to Wednesday, 1st April. Monday and Tuesday were reserved for senior management representatives from Rochester, Nailsea, Borehamwood, Basildon, Great Baddow and the Hirst Research Centre while Wednesday saw senior visitors from many of the MOD establishments and the CAA.

Presentations and demonstrations were given at both

FARL's New Road site and in the Airport Works conference rooms. These included the latest advances in VLSI design, liquid crystal and electroluminescent display panels, helmet mounted displays, artificial intelligence, digital colour map systems, software development facilities, nuclear hardening and digital data transmission.

The visitors indicated that they appreciated the opportunity to see these research activities and showed their interest with lively discussions and searching questions throughout each day.

## What's happening backstage at the Canteen?

The builders are in. We wonder what's going on this time.

Broadly speaking, says Chris Frost, Site Services Manager, it means a bigger main canteen, a new stage with scope for better facilities and good storage facilities, a 'green room' area for changing, etc., and a new entrance and ladies' and gent's loos in the area serving the existing Lounge Bar. The whole project, which will extend to the present building line at the end of the snack canteen store, will also provide extra food storage space. Some of this could be used for offices

if needed.

Already undertaken at the other end of the main canteen, the replacement of the partition wall by curtains will remain, giving flexibility in the size of the room for functions. The 'mobile' ticket kiosk will go when the new one now being built by the entrance is complete, and a table will cover the needs of the waitress service area.

Thus, it is hoped, better facilities will further enhance the ability of our canteen to cope with large assemblies, as well as its day-to-day activities.

## CHESS PROBLEM

**Problem No. 9**  
White to play and mate in two moves



**Solution to Problem No. 8**

A LOVELY PAIR  
Key 1 Kb6 (threat 2 Qd7 mate)  
1... Kb6 2 Bc2 mate  
1... Kd4 2 Kc3 mate  
1... Rg6 2 Bg6 mate  
1... Rd3 2 Bb5 mate

Probably the best cross-check Meredith ever made. A brilliant key grants Black two rights-squares, and exposes the White King to checks from the Black Rook. The matching pair of interferences on the Black Bishop as the Rook checks is excellent. Gerry Anderson, a Master composer of many problem types, was the last person to play chess with that great world champion, Alexander Alekhine.



## Heap of the Week

HELP! Chatham Old People's Welfare (Ambulance Committee) have a problem - their mini-bus Ambulance has seen better days and is itself in need of retirement.

The mini-bus is initially required to transport elderly infirm people from their homes to the day centre at Chatham Riverside. The centre provides hot meals, advice, entertainment and above all a chance to meet other people. Some of the old people make their own way to the centre but for those who need the centre most, the housebound, the mini-bus is vital.

At present they are having to put up with some discomfort and occasionally disappointment when the present vehicle goes in for repair, which is happening all too frequently.

The Chatham Old People's Welfare Committee have made a promising start to their fundraising, but require another £5,000 by June if they are to be able to take up one particular grant of money. This would mean getting the mini-bus many months sooner than would be possible without the



grant. Can you help them?

The Fund Raising Committee have arranged a variety of events and are looking for helpers. They have a door to door collection in Chatham from 15th to 19th June 1987 and a sponsored walk at the end of the month. If you can

help with either please contact Mrs. Negus at the Centre on Medway 811938 9.00 to 4.00.

Also look out for the stall at the Dickens Festival 30th and 31st May 1987, and remember any donations will be gratefully received.

### Editor's Note

The GAV Central Charity Committee have already made a generous donation to this fund, but members and non-members of the scheme alike, may feel they can give to this special cause which is an urgent one.

## GEC Avionics Open Lecture

The Annual company sponsored Open Lecture was given at University of Kent in Canterbury, by Dr. Edwin Course, Senior Tutor in Industrial Archaeology and Transport at Southampton University. His subject was "Industrial Archaeology and Industry", and the traditional visit to Airport Works by the lecturer and senior academic staff from UKC was given an emphasis on the historical aspects of our site.

The visitors were told by Ron Bristow and Malcolm Moulton of the many ways in which our long tradition of products for the aircraft industry, custody of the former Shorts factory now refurbished, and activities in aircraft preservation in conjunction with the RAeS Medway Branch, make an important and distinctive contribution to industrial history. By contrast, we also showed Dr.

Course the up-to-date aspects of world-leading technology covering major exports.

To demonstrate all these, there was an exhibition of Ron Bristow's private collection of old Elliott and other instruments, a visit to the Preservation Group's workshop behind the hanger where Hurricanes, a Merlin engine and an F-84F are being restored, and a walk-round of ADD's production area to see the latest HUDs being manufactured and tested. It was not possible to visit another local example of industrial archaeology, the Historic Dockyard which at present also houses the Sunderland Flying Boat "Sir Arthur Gouge" but Dr. Course and his colleagues were shown a video of the occasion of the arrival in Chatham of the Shorts aircraft for its own restoration.

# GEC N Y EC 1986

This account of the 1986 GEC National Young Employees Competition, prepared largely by team members now away at college, is an overview. Modesty has played down the enormous team effort prior to the event during training locally and in the Lake District. The trauma of a disappointing start in the actual competition was followed by the elation of just gaining the last of 12 finalist places, and the final rise from 12th to 5th in as little as 20 minutes. In the Sunday morning finals, the team scored 150 more points than anyone else! So near but yet so far...

## Wednesday & Thursday

We arrived in Wales 2 days before the actual start of the competition to acclimatise. Not quite as easy as we all expected, instead on the Thursday we (including 'Strling') went on Len's twelve mile long and twelve mile HIGH hike to the highest point in South Wales peaking at 2904 ft. The height we were climbing to became more obvious when a Tornado flew below us.

## Friday

Shockingly, it was here, the first day of the competition. After a relaxing breakfast at the Red Lion we boarded our minibus by 9.30 am and headed for Builth Wells County Showground where the major events were to be staged. After registering our team B1, the reserves obtained prime position for our banner, whilst all team members were preparing for the first zone at Llangorse Lake which was mainly water based activities.

We then had a gruelling wait to board the coach which would take us to the lake, with which Len and Gary were already familiar from last year. The team were far more relaxed than we had all expected.

Our first event was the Minefield - Electric fence - Shooting. We unfortunately lost the scaffold plank whilst crossing the minefield which meant we still had the bricks/ladder/scaffold pole to cross the Electric fence.

wasn't all too successful first time as it was embedded in the mud. We were all concerned when the A-frame would not budge from the river bed, but fortunately we managed to get back into the two canoes and headed for the shore. We finished well ahead of the other groups.

Because of the way in which we tackled this problem, we were beginning to build up our confidence, after such a disappointing start to the first day.

We knew that the 'Raft Building' exercise was to boost our confidence even more than the previous event. We coped admirably by getting the lashings nice and tight in a short build time. As we were on our way back, after padding out approximately 60 feet and changing the buoys over, the other teams were just beginning to enter the water. Which emphasised how quickly we accomplished the task.

Although it had been a day of ups and downs, we were lying in 10th position within the White Group and approximately 45th overall. Most definitely a disappointing performance by the team, but it was in a way an encouraging factor as we were determined to pick up our position status on the following day which consisted of orienteering and 8x20 minute problems.

## Saturday

It was an early start. We had to be ready to leave Llangorse Lake at 8.00 am.

I'm sure that the whole team would like to congratulate Derek Harvey on winning the 'Le Mans' start for the second year running. He was the last to arrive and somehow at the front of the queue when we left for the orienteering.

Almost immediately on arriving at our destination we were set off. Three hours of gruelling cross country!

We started at a very fast pace. Instantly we had

gathered our bearings and we were heading for our first check point, this probably the most essential, as we all knew once we had found this the pressure on us would immediately ease off.

It was probably the most strenuous event we were to undertake as it took a lot of stamina to keep up the fast scramble through the thick woods behind Kevin. The rest of us had no squabbles about following him as he made an opening and also he knew exactly where he was going. Of course we all knew really!!

We found every single checkpoint in a remarkable time of 2 hrs 11 mins. Even the managers and reserves didn't expect us back so soon, in fact they were almost nodding off. Just as well we didn't take any longer!

Back to the County Showground now in Builth Wells, where we were going to take part in the 8x20 minute problems in the afternoon.

These short problems involved a considerable amount of skill of varying degrees.

First was the Compass/Distance problem which we didn't start too well, but we managed to keep hold of the situation and pull back enough to gain reasonable points.

The Rope ladder was completed quickly and efficiently as the Scouts training was so intense we couldn't really forget any knots or techniques.

Barrels/Planks involved manoeuvring oil drums and planks over approximately 100 yards in a short time. We timed the finish about right with literally three to four seconds remaining.

BMX Maze was simple enough but it required a reasonable degree of balance and speed.

Upside down canoe on the water with a reasonable side support was easy once we had a stable platform. This must have been the best solution, as



The team in action

every other team was quick to follow our unique design.

Assault Course involved many obstacles where buckets of water had to be transported around, which meant more points at the end of time.

Semaphore training at Buckmore Park paid off. But the anagrams proved too taxing for the brain. (Too many cooks spoil the broth! HA! HA!) The final 20 minute problem involved measurement of both water and areas with very few actual measuring implements.

Although this proved to be a much better day than Friday, our positions hadn't improved all that much. In fact we had moved up to 7th position within White Group and about 25th to 30th overall. Still an awful lot of work yet to be done if we going to even make the top twelve, so we could enter the finale!

## Sunday

The first event, and last if we didn't do extremely well, consisted of 4x50 minute problems.

Rope Bridge - what a really good event to begin with, at such a tense moment in time!

This was second nature to all of us and we finished in 15 minutes, hence 35 minutes remaining. We were only 1 minute off the record time for that event.

Logical Survival - this was a very complex problem involving lots of difficult tasks which had to be carried out in such a short space of time. Maybe we should have asked for the 35 minutes we had left over from the previous event to be added.

Anyway we coped really well, each team member contributing their individual skills. This was the only time we had worked individually since the commencement of training in April.

These individual efforts by us all showed how much trust we actually had in each other.

But I'm afraid it has to be mentioned about Derek's capabilities of knitting (truly amazed us all); Gary building igloos out of straw bales, Steve making snow shoes for Kevin to wear.

The object was to retrieve a combination to a lock, which Kevin did wearing Steve's snow shoes. While Kevin was doing this Steve and Gary were building two small A-frames so we could bridge a ditch to obtain the safe for which Kevin had the combination.

It should be pointed out that 'Knitty-Nora' was still battling away doing a grand job.

Eventually all these individual efforts were brought together when Gary read out the combination to Kevin and we all read and answered the questions which were con-

## Noah's Ark stopped here



'Queen of the Beasts'

Last year we recorded the travels of Marion Moon, Product Support Executive in AS&RD, following her expedition to South America.

For her next trip she decided that Tanzania and its wildlife deserved a visit - and here is her account of the 'safari' which took place at Christmas.

The open plains, learning wildlife and superb weather lured us to Tanzania. We picked up our rucksacks, climbed aboard an Ethiopian Airways B767 and anticipated days of excitement, interest and fun.

Tanzania is a Third World country which has been listed as the second poorest in the world next to Bangladesh, yet Tanzania has unsurpassed treasures, its wildlife. Nowhere in the world is there such a concentration and diversity of animals. The country has not fully realised its potential for tourism and we found a certain reluctance to share their treasures with the world. The

people are protective towards their animals allowing the tourist to visit only after paying a high price for this privilege. The traveller also has to be prepared to put up with some deprivation particularly with the country's inadequate transport system. Of the few roads that there are, 70% are dirt which become impassable in the rains. Petrol and commodity shortages also ensure that to travel in any reasonable comfort one has to be self-sufficient.

Tanzanian history includes the ugly trade in human beings which only officially ended in the 1920's; the existence of the Nutcracker Man; several ancient civilisations; but without doubt it is the animals that astound and amaze the traveller.

A quarter of the land has been reserved for Game Parks and National Forests and we travelled extensively in three Game Parks, Serengeti, Ngorongoro Conservation Area and the Lake Manyara Game Reserve. Here were many square miles

seemingly empty of human habitation but nevertheless peopled by the warrior tribe the Masai, tall slender nomadic people who wander across the lands with their cattle, donkeys and goats subsisting almost entirely on the produce of their herds. They rarely eat meat but rather let blood from the cattle and mix it with milk to make a nutritious drink. These are the only people allowed on the Reserves other than the Game Wardens who guard the Parks and track down poachers and of course the tourist with his permit.

The spectacular seasonal migration of the herds, primarily wildebeest and zebra, begins in May and June when the animals travel westward to the permanent waters of the Serengeti Game Park returning in November after the short rains. We watched this return, the tens of thousands of game stretched to the horizon in all directions. About a million animals are involved in the migration, the Serengeti being

home to four million. Calling it the eighth we exaggerate. Often a group sitting in an open area were the only humans this vastness that is. Unfortunately for us the lions were engrossed in traditional quarry. We 20 yards from these potentially dangerous

males, nothing between distance. They would usually content to pick the part of 'King Jungle'. In case we were too complacent I

watched these beautiful creatures a sudden movement or sharp noise cause them to fix us; piercing critical stare; dator. We would wait, deny the silence huff until eventually the relaxed and then so equally spectacular, deep and an area of miles. It is approach steep road, one of



Knit one ... purr one ... thinks Nora (Derek)



Blood, sweat but no tears. Kevin, Derek, Gary and Steve after the Finals.

played our Golf skills which helped us to buy arrows off the judge on the next stage. We had the maximum number of balls, so we bought five arrows from the judge. It was funny in a way because she questioned our decision, since if we missed the targets whilst doing the Archery we wouldn't gain any points overall. Gary obtained two Bulls'eyes, not bad considering he's short-sighted and the rest of us scored well hitting the inner ring. Our confidence was purely due to the morning we spent with GAV Archery Club. Thanks!

We were on a real high now, but we had to appreciate that the disappointing start might stop us from making the finale. We had to wait several hours for the facts and figures to be processed. The managers and reserves were probably more stressed up than the team were.

They announced the results, we were lying in 12th position, bearing in mind only twelve teams entered the finale. What a relief! The training, time, effort from everyone had paid off, we had a good chance of pulling up to a respectable position overall if we did well

over the assault course. The Assault course had already been built. It looked challenging, but nothing we weren't used to. Unfortunately, we had an extremely long wait until we could attack the course. Obviously we couldn't watch the other teams go over the course, so we waited in a 'sheep pen' for roughly three hours. Boring!

Our time had come. It was only a day ago when we were lying 45th position and now we achieved a marvellous 12th position. Nothing to lose, everything to go for.



A Reminder of the Team and reserves.

### GEC National Young Employees' Competition '86 GEC Avionics (Rochester) Team

Top: **Steve Quinnell**, Electronics Technician  
Engineer Apprentice (ADD)  
left: **Derek Watson**, Trainee Computer Programmer,  
(MASD, at College now)  
**Kevin Oliver**, Student Technologist, (at College  
now)  
bottom: **Gary Lampkin**, Technical Assistant (MASD)  
Reserves, on right: **Steve Tyrrell**, TCP (PSD, at  
College now), **Dave Gwynne**,  
TCP (MASD, at College now).

FINALE

We entered the Hall not really knowing what to expect. The judge briefed us on our objec-

None of us could help but notice that the atmosphere produced by the six hundred spectators was indescribable. It was a bad start. Not really getting it together instantly. The 8' gap we had to bridge with a safe scaffolding structure proved difficult when the heavy end was being pulled across and began to dip. Kevin supported it well, but how was he to get across with all of us on one side and him the other?

Don't Despair, Don't Dare, Kevin, was there. Yes he jumped the 8' gap from standing still. What he had done became more apparent when the crowds cheering almost lifted the roof.

However, despite this we were still behind and time was

**Grateful thanks for advice, assistance and training facilities to**  
Captain Coyle, Staff Sergeant Ward, Corporals Lyons and Barlow of the Royal Engineers, Brompton Depot Squadron Peter Gibbs (ISD) and the 38th Medway Scouts and the GAV/BP Archery Club  
John Keeling (AS&RD), Peter Keeling and Betty Martin and the GAV/BP Rifle Club  
Dave Jibb (ADD) and the GAV/BP Swimming Club  
Bradley Smith and Zendriff Ltd.  
**and many others who contributed.**

running out. Quickly dismantling the 8' structure we started to take all the scaffold poles across the swinging tyres suspended from the ceiling. Through the concrete tunnel and then we had to confront the 14' wall. Immediately, a suitable structure was built and laid up against the wall and we all clambered over and down the other side.

We split here: Derek and Kevin began to plaster the artificial ceiling whilst Steve and Gary dismantled the scaffold

poles and sprinted the length of the Hall several times with poles under their arms.

What an outstanding effort it had been. Not only did we finish the course in the time allocated, but we obtained the second highest score on the finale. In fact the team that scored higher than us won the competition. So, maybe if our first two events weren't so devastating ...

**... what could have been.**



The final review was held in the presence of Derek Webb, GEC National Development Training Advisor who ran the competition nationally, Ron Howard, and senior managers from Rochester divisions and departments involved. Gary Lampkin, seen here, was one of the team members relating his experiences and what they had learned as a team and individuals.

Looking on are Derek Harvey, Training Officer and Len Martin, Team Manager. Derek summed up the feelings of everyone when he said they had gone through the whole range of emotions, and the confidence and personal strengths built up (and the acknowledgement of weaknesses) were part of the tremendous team spirit formed. At times they were miles behind but never gave up. And a final lesson perhaps for all of us - no matter how well taught you are and how good you think you are - always listen to advice from colleagues and fellow competitors!

roads that allow the crater to be accessible. 300,000 animals are here including flocks of flamingos that feed off the soda lake at its centre.

Of the three parks probably Lake Manyara is the most beautiful. On a strip of land between the Lake and the edge of the Rift Valley another world of magnificent creatures unfolded before us.

Some tourists stay in the well positioned Safari Lodges sculptured into the landscape. Despite the magnificent architecture which blended dramatically with the scenery it was apparent that they were not receiving the necessary maintenance. In one, a large colony of baboons lived in the grounds and frequented the passageways. The smells and droppings didn't seem conducive to a luxury hotel.

Personally I preferred the campsites which were about a mile from the Lodges. There we had control over the cooking and as a consequence no-one suffered from any stomach disorders. Yet a tent

somehow doesn't seem very secure pitched in the midst of so many wild animals. However its particular advantage is that once zipped up we couldn't be invaded by the creepy crawlies. Still the bigger animals could have been a problem. Bedtime stories told around the campfire included ones of wild elephants tipping people out of bed to get some seeds, hyenas chewing off the faces and limbs of people sleeping out in the bush and leopards dragging screaming men out of their tents in the middle of the night. So as I lay in my tent with the sounds of lions roaring close by it was incredible that I could so easily fall asleep. In the morning it was not unusual to see the lions' pawprints in the soft sand and realise that we had had company.

Game runs are taken in the early morning or at dusk when the animals are at their most active. During the hot day we and the animals became lethargic and everything was just too much effort. However

the flies never ceased. Out on the plains there is a continuous flicking of tails, stamping of hooves and wagging of ears. In our own way we did the same. Small black flies crowded us and settled on us whenever we stopped which made life very unpleasant. Still these were not as bad as the tsetse flies which have a vicious job. No-one felt any



Campsite in the crater

compunction at trying to eliminate these pests. Some parts of the country were very damp and sandy, ideal breeding grounds for mosquitoes and in the grassy areas where goats roamed lurked ticks. These little creatures race over your clothes and skin ready to fasten themselves into tender flesh. You had to be quick to prevent them staying with you

awhile. Some of our companions were attacked by a swarm of very angry African bees and the trauma stayed with them for many days. It certainly wasn't the big mammals with huge teeth and sharp claws that caused concern.

There are few towns and the villages are small in size. With the lack of water, Dar es Salaam the capital runs out of water in the afternoon, and the poor roads must hinder their development. The majority of people live in traditional mud huts and very few have any form of conveyance. Agriculture is the basis of their economy and outside any major plantations, of which we saw only a few, most people scratched a living from the red soil in harmony with the animals. It was common to see Giraffe and Gazelles feeding near the villages. Nonetheless it noticeable that although there was no marked boundaries to the Reserves the animals seemed to know where they were safe from the poacher.

The excessive bureaucracy, infuriating delays and lack of attention to the requirements of the tourists who bring in the much needed foreign currency, did not detract from the beauty of the country. The idea of Noah's Ark resting in Tanzania does not seem so far fetched when you witness her unique treasures, her animals.

Marion Moon

## Electro-optical Surveillance Division beats Government production target for night vision equipment

GAV Sensors Group has delivered the 1,000th set of an advanced night vision equipment to the Ministry of Defence, several months ahead of the target schedule.

The thermal imaging modules, known as TICM II, provide all three armed services with a basis for a common standard of advanced equipment for night vision operations. The equipment, for which EOSD at Basildon is responsible, is in UK service as well as earning substantial exports.

It comprises a set of Thermal Imaging Common Modules (TICM), from which a great variety of indirect

view imagers are constructed. Fitted in aircraft, tanks, ships and other vehicles, they enable an operator to see clearly by day or night and through smoke, mist or haze.

The MoD sponsored the development of the standard TICM II modules, with GEC Avionics as the prime contractor in association with Rank Taylor Hobson, to minimise the cost of introducing night vision capabilities in all services.

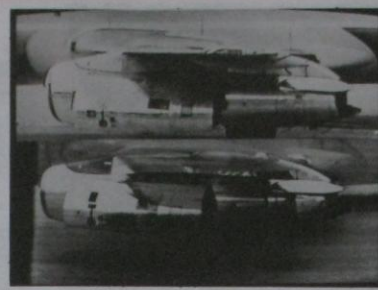
The proven success of the design and the demonstrated ability to achieve high rates of production have enabled this objective to be achieved.

Applications of TICM II modules include imagers to give night firing capability to Chieftan and Challenger main battle tanks and the Tracked Rapier air defence system. The British Army's new Phoenix RPV surveillance system also uses TICM II. Other applications include Royal Navy fast patrol boats, Lynx helicopters and forward looking infra red (FLIR) systems for Royal Air Force Tornado GR1 and Harrier GR5 aircraft. The FLIR system enables pilots literally to see in the dark and operate as in daytime. In all these cases EOSD was able to offer the required technology cost-effectively, using the

### TICM II modules.

Several other countries have ordered night vision imagers based on TICM II. The FLIR system to be fitted to US Marine Corps AV-8B aircraft is also TICM II-based, like the RAF's system for its Harriers, an important example of international agreement on so advanced an equipment. The government's Defence Export Services Organisation (DESO) is supporting the drive to exploit further the technological and production capabilities invested in TICM II, which is now recognised as a world-leading product.

This photograph of a TV monitor screen has been taken by the Royal Signals and Radar Establishment, Malvern, to demonstrate the remarkable performance of the TICM II thermal imager. The imager has been assembled from the UK Thermal Imaging Common Modules, for which GAV is prime con-



tractor to the Ministry of Defence.

The top half of the screen shows a daytime scene of an aircraft's engine taken with an ordinary TV camera. Simultaneously displayed beneath is the same scene, taken with the GEC Avionics TICM II imager. The similarity between the appearance of

shiny reflecting surfaces, when viewed by light and by heat, is particularly striking.

It demonstrates how clearly scenes can be observed and shows how the advanced TICM II imagers can be used with standard TV recording and display equipment.

## Fund Raising Voyage – from the West Indies to New York



Lisa Vaughan is a Second Year Commercial Trainee, working most recently in CACD Purchasing. She joined us in 1985 after A-levels at Mid Kent College, having been at Chatham Grammar School for Girls.

She is seen here receiving from John Ainley, Personnel Manager, a sponsorship cheque just before she departed in March to join "ARETHUSA" in Antigua at the start of the voyage to New York.

P.S. We received a postcard from British Virgin Islands; it had been raining hard in Antigua, not like the advertisements!

**LISA VAUGHAN** approached GAV Training Department late last year to enquire about the possibility of company sponsorship. She explained the purpose of the Arethusa Transatlantic Fund Raising Mission and the possible benefits which could arise, both for the charity concerned and the

### Medway Towns

The Training Department, having looked at the details believed Lisa to be worthy of sponsorship, however it was decided that she should earn her sponsorship in some way. It was suggested to Lisa that it was possible to help local charities in a physical sense as well as by fund raising, and that it

would be a benefit both to local organisations and herself if she was to do voluntary work in her spare time. In a very short space of time Lisa established links with two local organisations and gave up a lot of time to help them. The organisations involved were Great Field Lodge,

Darnley Road, Strood, a home for the mentally handicapped in which Lisa worked all day on Sundays, and All Saints Hospital, James Ward, where she helped in the geriatric ward on Tuesday evenings.

Lisa felt that she had gained greatly from her experiences while working with both the mentally handicapped and the elderly, she believes that on her return she would like to continue, in some way, with the voluntary work that she started.

The Training Department believe that everybody gained by Lisa's voluntary work, both Lisa herself and the organisations to whom she gave her time and effort.

from the four legs of the campaign attended an open day at the Arethusa Venture Centre at Upnor.

I met for the first time, crew members of my leg and our captain for the voyage Mr. Gwilym Evans. Everybody seemed quite pleasant. I wonder how I will feel at the end of the trip, having lived closely on the yacht with fifteen others, where space and privacy is limited and luxuries are rationed – I just hope that I can remember at least one face when we meet for the second time on the day of departure from Heathrow airport, the 17th March.

Literature was distributed by Gwilym throughout the course of the day, detailing the aims of the voyage.

The main aims of the venture are

- 1) To carry abroad the message of service to people in need and to return to Britain with an enhanced means to finance the future of one of the country's oldest charities – The Shaftesbury Home.
- 2) To promote the Medway Towns and attract investment to the North Kent area.

The campaign which commenced in October '86 and will finish in May '87 will therefore promote and secure support for the many expressions of its caring work, the greatest opportunity for putting Medway on the

map will come when the Arethusa docks at New York alongside "The Peking", her predecessor.

Here she will play hostess at a great fund raising celebration attended by local VIPs and businessmen invited in the hope that they will give their support to the charity.

May '86 seems just a couple of months away, how quickly time has passed.

Preparations have been made, where thermal long johns, hats and layers of warm clothing are a must in New York and lightweight cotton clothing and water-proofs (thanks Sis) are essential if we are going to survive the blistering hot sun of the Caribbean.

As March the 17th fast approaches I am now filled with feelings of excitement and apprehension.

The Personnel and Training Departments have backed me all the way and I thank them for all the hard work and enthusiasm they have shown towards me. I have been encouraged to greater heights and I feel that I am prepared for the campaign. Not only will it allow me to rise to challenge, but I will be able to recognise and experience varying cultures within the course of the expedition.

Hopefully I will return with a booklet and enlightened outlook on life and an appreciation of team work, spirit and endurance.

## CHARITY 10km RUN Help to save a life!



Dear Friend, CONCERN UNIVERSAL has its offices in Medway and therefore is very much a part of the local fund raising community, as well of course as operating nationally. It was one of the first charities involved in the Ethiopian disaster, which was made famous by Bob Geldof's appeal. When the pop star ran Sport Aid we organised a local 10km race and managed to raise a great deal of money to save lives. However the tragedy did not end with that one year of spectacular efforts, and so we have decided to make the race an annual one in Medway. The money raised will be used by Concern Universal to help the starving, handicapped and refugees of Ethiopia and other countries of extreme poverty and misery. We have workers in Africa and other countries now, but our work relies purely on donations and quite simply we need more money now. It does not cost a great deal to save a life, particularly the starving children. In simple terms we know that for every person who takes part in this race one life – at least – will be saved! That is why we are so grateful to those who are running and to all of you who support them with sponsorship money.

Thank You,

*Alo Donnelly*

Alo Donnelly, National Executive Director, Concern Universal.

P.S. If you are interested in finding out more about our work, or want to help please contact me personally at Concern Universal, Freepost, Rochester, Kent ME1 1BR

CHARITY 10km RUN  
MONDAY 25th MAY 11.00am  
MATTHEWS RIDING CENTRE  
LOWER RAINHAM ROAD,  
GILLINGHAM,  
KENT

Entry forms obtainable from:  
Paul Nihill, Contracts Dept., ATED  
Internal X 3639  
THE SPIRIT OF 'SPORT AID' LIVES ON

### Lisa's Story

I've always felt deeply that life is all about broadening one's horizons, experiences and outlook on life. It was this deep feeling inside me along with a desire for excitement and challenge that spurred me on to apply for a position as a crew member of the Arethusa Transatlantic Fund Raising Mission. I received in May '86, a letter confirming that I had been selected as one of the 16 crew members to take part, on the third leg of the mission, from Antigua to New York – I was thrilled. In June all crew members



# 25 years' service

**Brian Eastabrook**, a Senior Quality Assurance Engineer with Aviation Service and Repair Division, is yet another member of our staff that has spent the whole of his time with GEC in one division.

He started off in 1962 as a Spares Compiler with the Technical Publications Department, but proving that had a talent for words as well as numbers, he was made a Technical Writer two years later. Promotion came fairly rapidly and in 1967 he was a Technical Author, rising to Senior Technical Author in 1969.

For a change of scenery, Brian joined the Quality Assurance Department, occupying much of his time with Procedures and Quality Plans until he decided to revert to the numbers game again.

The position he now holds is Senior Standards Engineer, primarily dealing with component selection and parts lists for all of AS&RD's repair and new build test equipment.

Brian invited his wife Pat, who works in the Production Department of ADD, for the special meal in the Visitors Room. He chose a wrist watch as his twenty-five years gift, which was presented in the Divisional Manager's Office by Bill Letley, the Divisional Quality Assurance Manager. (A)



When **Ted Ord's** picture was in the last issue following his retirement, it wasn't clear that the occasion also marked 25 years' service. Sales Manager Alec Hill presented Ted with a canteen of cutlery to mark his second career - Ted served 24 years in the Navy before joining Elliott Bros, hence he also received a rather long paying off pennant detailing his working life; with us this covered periods in EADS, AEID, ISD, and since 1979 PSD, where he was a Leading Hand in Test.

Now Ted will continue to enjoy his golf on the Gillingham course in his retirement. (B)



**Brian Crumble**, Mechanical Inspector with GSD was presented with a barometer on completing 25 years with the company. Brian started out as an apprentice with Shorts, transferring to Elliotts to complete his apprenticeship and has since worked with Servo Division, Gear Division, Fuze Division then IND/GSD from 1972. He is married with 2 children, and is interested in football and other sports. (A)



On 13th February **John Willis** completed 25 years service with the company. He was presented with a clock by John Colston, the Divisional Manager of ISD, at the Cheshire Home, Mote Park, Maidstone, where he is at present undergoing treatment.

John joined the company as an Inspection Trainee in January 1962 transferring to an apprenticeship later that year. After working as a Fitter/Turner in FID he became a Model Shop Technician in 1967. In 1972 John became a Chargehand in the Vacuum Fusion Department of the then FID and was promoted to Foreman in 1975. From Production Engineer in ISD in 1977 John became Chief of Test in October 1981.

John is a family man with a son, Leigh aged 11 and a daughter, Emma aged 7.

Seen above with John and his wife Lynne are Peter Robbins, John Colston, Roy Hanson, Brian Rogers, John Goodhand, Ken Hyde, Johnny Govier and Fred Wickham.

ISD all send John and Lynne their very best wishes. (A)



**Fred Mackley** was congratulated on his 25 years service and presented with his gift of cut glass by John Colston. Fred joined MACD as a Technical Assistant after completing his National Service as a Radar Technician, initially working on VC-10 and Lightning Air Data Systems. Later he was a major contributor to the Twin Capsule Units and Force Balance Transducers, of which many thousands have now been produced. During the last 10 years, Fred's experience has been very much US biased, firstly on the Cobra Helicopter Air Data System and more recently as SCADC Program Manager.

This is clearly a significant year for Fred and his wife Margaret; it brings their 25th Wedding Anniversary, 25 Years Company Service, the Wedding of daughter Janet, and Fred's recent appointment as Divisional Manager of ISD.

Congratulations to both Fred and Margaret. Shown above at the presentation are (L to R) David Sillsbey, John Clover, John Colston, Fred Mackley, Fred Wickham and Peter Hewlett. (A)



**Les Smithers**, Quality Technician with AS&RD received his barometer and certificate of long service from Ted Farbrace, Production Manager. Les was first with MACD, but has been in his present division since he transferred as Inspector in 1965, becoming a QT with the introduction of the Quality Technician scheme in 1976. (B)



**Neville Brightley** joined the company after working as a Painter in HM Dockyard, to work in MACD as Wireman after training. In 1967 he was promoted to Assistant Foreman, and in 1968 to Foreman, Wiring Cableforming and Small Parts Assembly. Through the changes to the old FCD and CACD he retained his Foreman position, and in April last year transferred to the Production Office as Planner, where his experience of SPA supervision is proving of tremendous value.

Outside work photography, fishing, DIY and golf are main interests - the divisional golf ace reckons Neville's handicap is just playing. His daughter Lynn is a Senior Contracts Officer in ATED. Divisional Manager Keith Snelling made the presentation. (A)



**Trevor Gilbert** started his working life in 1958 as an apprentice with Woodfield Hoist, but after completing just over four years, Japanese competition finally closed the factory down and he spent the final ten months with Elliott Bros. He served with MACD as a fitter/turner, being promoted to Mechanical Inspector in 1963.

In 1967 Trevor transferred to AS&R Division as an Inspector and then had the choice of joining the Production Department as a Quality Technician or staying as an Inspector in the Inward Goods Section. He chose the latter, and was promoted to Leading Hand in 1983.

He is well known in the division for his unfortunate choice of cars and the many problems he seems to inherit, so he was assured during the presentation by Bill Letley, Quality Assurance Manager, that his clock was not likely to develop engine trouble, had passed its MOT and should give many years of trouble free timekeeping! Trevor was accompanied by his wife Janice for the customary lunch in the Visitors Room. (A)



A delayed presentation for PSD's Head of Progress, **Alan Chambers**, was made by Production Manager Mick Meskin.

Alan's career at the Airport started before the war, with Pobjoys assembling Spitfire wings. That company was bombed out and he transferred to Shorts working on Sunderlands, but before long he enlisted - one year in the Navy, later with the Queens Regiment and the Buffs. Then demob in '47, 6 years in the building trade (building the NAAP/King Charles Hotel), time as mens orderly at Kitchener and finally joining Elliotts as progress chaser. Alan has gone full circle through AEID, FID, and PSD, with whom he has recently moved to within 20 feet of where he first started in 1962! (A)



**Stan Lawson**, Senior Logistics Engineer in GSD, is an ex Dockyard Electrical Fitter who moved to English Electric on a one year Training course. He served three years in all with English Electric in Stevenage and Central London.

He joined this company in 1962 as Detail Draughtsman in IND. He worked on Nimrod, Jaguar NAVWASS and Naval Compass Stabiliser, during seventeen years in which he was promoted Section Leader.

In 1979 he transferred to FCD DO as Section Leader and in 1982 he joined ATE as Logistics Engineer working on Tornado ATS On-Call.

We hear his spare time is taken up by falling off horses - a pastime which he pursues with characteristic enthusiasm. He and his wife (Thelma) enjoy eating out. (B)



**Eric Green**, after early days working sheet metal as an apprentice, came to Rochester in the very beginning of ATED, and has spent most of his 25 years in a succession of posts in the DO, at present being Senior Mechanical Designer. He has become very much a specialist in printed circuit layout. But Eric also has time at home on many activities - indeed the home itself is currently being enlarged partly by his own hand. Also golf and bowls - golf has been an interest for 8 years or more and Eric has represented ATED in inter-divisional matches and GAv Golf Society outings. To keep fit for all that, there is walking, he and his wife are much attracted by the Lake District and Falls.

Arthur Colwell gave Eric his presentation clock. (B)



**Brian Gotting** is not merely one of the Long Service people within the Company, but is also part of the Long Service group within the Division. His time within ADD is now 22 years and this follows an initial 3 year spell within the Military Aircraft Controls Division, which he left as a Drawing Office Section Leader.

During Brian's time with ADD he has seen the Division go through its various metamorphosis from the Lower Sydenham operation, through its Hanger One days as DAD and grow, from the basis of the A-7 work in 1968 to what it has become today.

At the time of A-7, Brian was Chief Draughtsman and he was promoted to Project Manager in 1974 to pick up work on the Panavia Tornado. Since then he has been involved in a very wide range of projects, of which his current activities are F-5 Head-Up-Displays and every bit as important to future prospects of the Division as have been some of his earlier activities such as LANTIRN.

Brian with his wife Jeannette who is on the Temporary Pool, and daughter Ellen who works in CACD Contracts Dept. (A)



Continued on next page

# Retirements

**'Dave' Lucas** joined the company in Aircraft Engine Instruments Division as an Assistant Buyer, transferred to Military Aircraft Controls Division later that same year as an Asst. Cost and Budget Officer. He was promoted to Cost and Budget Officer of Central Machine Shop in 1966 only then to be requested to transfer back to AEID in 1967.

In 1970 AEID merged with Flight Instruments Division when they became Instrument Systems Div., where he was appointed Cost and Budget Officer.

In 1975 Dave was promoted to Cost Controller in Airborne Display Division, and in 1985 moved over to Production as Materials Cost Controller where he is today.

Dave Lucas is very interested in the music field as Organist and Choirmaster for thirty two years, with the last twenty two at Holy Trinity, Twydall Green, whose choir has been invited to sing Carols in the canteen for the Christmas Dinner since 1967. A family man with three daughters and five grandchildren, he tries to keep fit by walking around the airfield every lunchtime, often to shouts "you're mad", but nevertheless an effort to try and walk off some of the beer drunk the previous evening!



Dave Lucas with his wife Mary

**Alan Brown** was presented with a wristwatch by Bob Ruggles, GSD Divisional Manager.

Alan joined Elliott Bros. London Ltd at Borehamwood working as a Test Technician working on Blue Steel and TSR2. He transferred to Sydenham in 1965 working on Head Up Displays and Film Processors and transferred to Rochester in 1966 working in ATE, IND, GYRO and now GSD inspection.

Married, he has 3 children all boys aged 14, 17 and 21, and his hobbies are travel, camping and reading. (B)



**Ron Benjamin** joined MACD in 1962 as a Design Draughtsman to work on the TSR2 project. After cancellation, he transferred to IND as Designer for Jaguar Nav/WASS and stayed with the division to work on NCS1, CTS and various other projects. He acquired Senior Designer status on the way. At present he is in GSD involved with incorporation of the digital colour map into Phoenix and A6 systems.

Ron is married with 3 children and 4 grandchildren (recently a new granddaughter), and his hobby is gardening. He is seen with his wife Betty after the presentation by Bob Ruggles. (A)



**Barry Fever**, seen here with his wife Marilyn after his long service presentation by Divisional Manager Brian Tucker, started in Tech Pubs Library before commencing a 5-year apprenticeship, at the end of which he joined TACD Engineering as a TA. After a year he applied to become a Tester, and in Production Barry had become Leading Hand by 1969, during the Concorde project. The formation of FCD in 1970 was a marker on the route towards his promotion to Foreman of Test in 1974, and to his present position as Chief of Test in 1979. And outside Test, Barry enjoys coarse fishing, snooker, wine making and he says he will tackle most DIY jobs. (B)



**Graham Cooper**, a member of the CACD Engineering Department, celebrated 25 years with the company on Thursday 5th March. He was presented with a canteen of cutlery by Simon Frost, Deputy Divisional Manager.

Graham, a Yorkshireman, joined the company from British Aerospace, Brough then Hawker Siddeley. He attributed his long service largely to having fallen for a local girl and therefore having no choice but to remain in the South!

Over the years, he has made valuable contributions to the Tomado programme and, more recently, to the component engineering and logistics aspects of most of CACD's current projects. (B)

**John Goble**, Wireperson in CACD, was for a short time in the Paint Shop but in 1962 he transferred to ATED after training as a wireman. Shortly afterwards he moved to TACD, and since then has been in the 'Control' divisions, recently in Test and Test Engineering. The mantle clock marking 25 years' service was presented by Divisional Manager Keith Snelling. (A)



A characteristic picture of **Derek Worrall**, Labourer with Works Engineering for many years, seen here unusually without his pipe, and with his barrow and broom out of sight. Derek has in fact completed 25 years service but a picture wasn't taken at the time, last June. He started in Fishers and was there till 1963, moving to WES after a spell in IND. (A)

**Ed Hawley**, Staff Financial Executive, said farewell to the company on two occasions, a more formal 'official' presentation by Bill Alexander, and at a gathering in the Lounge Bar after work, when a huge number of friends and colleagues were present, not only from Rochester but from other places where they had moved from here. Ed's 27 years with the company were recalled by Mr. Alexander for whom Ed had been working directly since 1965, when his experience in FID contracts was taken into AEID. Ed progressed to Comptroller of ADD and reached his latest post in 1969. Ed told of his immense gratitude to the company and everyone with whom he had worked, making for him a happy life, and giving rise to his feeling the 'the company is people - and it's the people that matter'.

The formal presentation by Bill Alexander, seen here with Ed and a commemorative book, was augmented by a gift of crystal glassware from a great number of friends who were at the Lounge Bar, handed over again by the managing director.



Ed Hawley admiring the "book of memories" with Mr. Alexander. (A)

**Don Emmett**, GAV Assistant General Manager, was congratulated by Bill Alexander on his long service, when he retired after 35 years. These began with Guided Weapons Division as Control Engineer; he became Group Leader and then Chief Trials Engineer, Guided Weapons in 1955. 1960 saw a move to MACD as Project Manager, later to Technical Manager and then Manager, Military Auto Pilots. From 1962 to 1967 Don was Divisional Manager of MACD. (A)



A happy picture of **Bill Wilson**, well known to around 1500 apprentices as Training Instructor and Supervisor - many of them now hold important posts throughout GEC. Bill's 20 years with Training Dept. saw it grow from 3 to 33, and through several moves from the old location in the 60 ft. hangar. There, a few feet away by the old weigh-bridge, Bill had started his apprenticeship with Shorts, in 1939, and that was after starting as fitter's boy the previous year - at the age of 14½. 3 years in the Army and spells with small companies as Toolmaker led to Bill joining this company in 1956 in the Tool Room.

Retiring early, Bill plans more time for his hobby of amateur radio and his greenhouse. (A)

**Reg Beaver**, Chief Inspector in ADD Model Shop, retired after over 20 years service, and his wife **Martie** took early retirement after similar long service so they left together.

Here they are each with groups of their friends - Martie in ISD Tech Pubs Library, having in earlier years been in AS&RD. (B)



**Bill Stevenson**, Production Controller in CMS, receives congratulations and farewell from Peter Burrows, after nearly 40 years with the company. (A)



**Gwen Brooman**, seen here with John Bradley when she "retired" recently, can in fact still be seen around in the Canteen as she immediately continued on the Temporary Pool - thus adding more to the 32 years she has already marked up in the service of meals to employees and visitors. (A)



Tom Ince, retired after 11 years in ATED, with good wishes from Alex Castle. (B)



Sheila Slater, 11 years in ADD Purchasing Dept., with 'Curly' Childs. (A)



Maurice Dunmall, Senior Technical Representative, Quality, has been with AS&RD since 1959: 27 years' although with a short break. (B)



Ron Fill, 24 years with AS&RD, Fuze, FCD and AS&RD again, in Tech. Fabs. library. And that was after 22 years in the Navy. (A)



Bob Bower, Chief Inspector for many years in IND and ADD and later in Production Engineering ADD, with 'Curly' Childs. (A)



Bert Sutton, joined in 1966 as Fitter and has been in ATED as Mechanical Inspector for the last 11 years. Alex Castle presenting. (B)



Doug Millbanks has looked after the boilerhouse and stand-by generators for 20 years – and in an earlier period of service starting in 1958 was in Aviation, AEID and Fuel Flow Lab. (B)



Elle Cripps, 15 years in IND on bench work, and a cleaner in the Towers since early 1985. (B)



## Sports and Social Club Roundup



### Adult Lessons 1987

2nd Course: 27th April to 6th July incl.  
3rd Course: 13th July to 28th September incl.  
4th Course: 5th October to 14th December incl.

Teacher: Denise Dutton  
assisted by Mick Wood & Shirley Atkinson  
Lessons are on Mondays at  
the Club Pool  
from 8.15 pm to 9.15 pm

#### Fees

Annual Subs: £4.00 per family until October  
£5.00 per family from October

#### Course fees

Beginners: £5.00 per person/course  
Improvers: £3.00 per person/course

Only pupils and teaching staff are allowed  
in the pool area during lessons.

We endeavour to teach Swimming,  
Diving, Basic Resuscitation and  
Personal Survival

For further details contact:  
Cyril Moffett,  
Work: Medway 44400 Ext. 4241  
Home: Medway 48707

### R.L.S.S. Pre-lim Teachers Award

Congratulations to Ann Baran for passing her R.L.S.S. Pre-lim Teachers Award at Bexley on 15th March 1987.

### Life Saving Personal Survival

Teacher Denise Dutton, assisted by Ann Baran, Dave Jibb and Colin Newman – all teachers are qualified. Teaching standard is up to R.L.S.S. Medallion – the Lifeguard qualification.

Lessons are on Friday evenings at the Club Pool.

Times: 8.15 pm – 9.00 pm Children  
8.30 pm – 9.30 pm Adults

Awards to R.L.S.S. A.S.A. S.T.A. standards. Pupils must be able to swim 400 metres.

Contact: Cyril Moffett.

### Mother & Baby Classes

Teacher Denise Dutton. Classes held on Thursday evenings at the Club Pool from 5.15 pm to 6.00 pm. Ages from 4 months to 5 years.

A parent must accompany the baby in the water.

For further details contact: Cyril Moffett.

### Swimming Section President

The Swimming Section is pleased to announce that Mr. W.H. Alexander has accepted the position of President of the Swimming Section. Mr. Alexander has always shown a keen interest in sport and athletics – water polo being one of his many interests.

### Life Saving/ Personal Survival Awards

#### R.L.S.S. Safe Swimmer Award

	Grades
Sarah Moffett	1 & 2
Gavin Baran	1 & 2
Josephine Baran	1 & 2

#### R.L.S.S. Rescue Skills

	Grades
Mandy Atkinson	1, 2, 3 & 4
Shirley Atkinson	1 & 2
Alan Strike	1, 2, 3 & 4
Lisa Strike	1, 2, 3 & 4
Sarah Moffett	1 & 2
Gavin Baran	1 & 2
Josephine Baran	1 & 2
Martyn Holt	1, 2 & 3

#### R.L.S.S. Water Safety

Laura Judges  
Martin Judges  
Christopher Judges  
Martyn Holt

#### R.L.S.S. Aquanaut

	Grades
Martyn Holt	1, 2, 3 & 4
Christopher Judges	1 & 2

#### R.L.S.S. Basic Resuscitation

Martyn Holt  
Dan Jibb

#### S.T.A. Adult Achievement Awards

Jenny Venables Bronze Standard  
Ian Venables Silver Standard

#### R.L.S.S. Bronze Medallion

The Swimming Section Life Saving/ Personal Survival Group are pleased to welcome members of the Sub-Aqua Section. It is hoped that as many as 20 members of the Sub-Aqua Section will train and take their R.L.S.S. Bronze Medallion.

### Distance Badges (Children)

	Age	Distance (Metres)
James Marshall	13	5,000
Mandy Atkinson*	14	3,000
Rebecca Harvey	9	1,500
Michael Harvey	7	200
Sally Gosling	7	25

### Distance Badges (Adults)

	Distance (Metres)
Shirley Atkinson	2,000
Alan Strike	2,000
Pat Strike	25

### A.S.A. Swimming Skills Awards

	Grades
Rebecca Harvey	1, 2 & 3
Michael Harvey	3
Sally Gosling	1

### S.T.A. Dolphin Watermanship Awards

Sarah Moffett Age 11

### I.S.T.A. Swordfish Awards

Front Crawl Skills  
Back Crawl Skills  
Breast Stroke Skills  
Butterfly Skills  
Medley Skills  
Sarah Moffett

\* Mandy Atkinson was sponsored during her 3,000 metre swim and raised £14.04 for Breast Cancer Research – well done!

## GA/BP Sub Aqua Section 12 hour Sponsored Dive

On Saturday 21st February the GA/BP Sub Aqua Section held a 12 hour sponsored dive with all proceeds going to the Royal National Lifeboat Institute.

Not only were people asked to sponsor the team but they were also invited to guess the total number of lengths the team would swim inside the 12 hours.

The actual number of lengths completed within the time period was 1726.

The team of divers were as follows:- Adrian Covei, Barry Dibble; Dave Gwynne; Tim Hall; Paul Hemphill; Martin Hunter; Ray Newman and Laim Venables.

Whilst congratulating the team on their achievement I would like to publicly thank all the back-up staff for without them the dive would not have taken place.

To Peter Woolmer; Meryl Dibble; Mr. and Mrs. Venables; Donna Newton; Colin Broady; Andy

Murrell; Mike Smith; Roger and Sue Clarke; Joyce Newman; thanks for bringing air cylinders out, making tea, counting lengths completed and vocal support.

To Steve and Terry of South East Diving Supplies and not forgetting Mick Perez for the free supply of air. Many thanks to you for that.

To Maurice Finch and all his staff for the assistance out at the club.

To the Management Committee for the use of the pool. To all those whose names I missed out.

Lastly thanks to all those who sponsored us.

We hope to have raised over £500 for the RNLI.

Ray Newman  
D.O.  
GA/BP S.A.C.  
SAA#359.

## GEC Avionics/BP Kent Club Amateur Radio Section Amateur Radio Section News Success in Amateur Radio Contest

The Amateur Radio Section has won first prize in a recent contest, organised for radio amateurs, by the Verulam Amateur Radio Club, St. Albans, and sponsored by the magazine Ham Radio Today. The contest involved a combination of making the most contacts with other amateur radio stations, over

the greatest distances, within a fixed period of time. On March 10th, Section members visited the Verulam Amateur Radio Club to receive their winners' certificate and prize, from Dave Bradshaw, editor of Ham Radio Today, and to meet the contest organisers.

The Section decided to donate the prize, a power supply unit and a small 2 metre beam aerial, to the Radio Amateur Invalid and Bedfast Club (RAIBC). Mrs. Cathy Clarke was there to receive the donation on behalf of the RAIBC.

Section Chairman John Burton said, "We are delighted to have won this contest and are very happy at the thought of our prize being used for the benefit of radio amateurs in greater need than ourselves. Congratulations should go particularly to Section members Stewart Webb and Alan Ralph, who were instrumental in our success."

## Annual General Meeting

At the sixth Annual General Meeting on 17th March, the following officers and committee members were elected to serve until the next AGM:

Chairman – John Burton MASD  
Secretary – Alan Ralph AS&RD  
Treasurer – Bob Bower AS&RD  
Committee – Stewart Webb ATED  
Committee – Peter Carey BP

## Meetings

Regular meetings are held in the Radio Room at the Hoo clubhouse, on the first working Monday of each month, starting at around 7.30 pm. Additional meetings are held in between times and are notified to Section members. Members are also allowed to use the Section's radio stations G3PBY (class A) and G6VSN (class B).

Anyone interested in radio communication, or listening, will be very welcome at our meetings and details may be obtained from:

John Burton G6IVP  
Tel. 3792 or  
Alan Ralph G8XLH  
Tel. 3712 or  
any Committee Member.



<p><b>MAY</b></p> <p><b>THE TONY FALCON DUO</b> providing Music in CLUB LOUNGE on FRIDAY 8 MAY</p> <p><b>AN EVENING AT THE RACES!!</b> on SATURDAY 16 MAY 8 pm Filmed Races (8) Betting Units: 20p <b>Next Meeting SAT 11 JULY</b></p>	<p><b>BARN DANCE</b> with <b>"JEZREELS"</b> on SATURDAY 9 MAY 7.45-11.45 pm</p> <p><b>SPRING BANK HOLIDAY DANCE</b> with <b>"MESCALERO"</b> on SATURDAY 23 MAY 7.45-11.45 pm</p> <p><b>"HAPPY DAZE" DANCE</b> on SATURDAY 30 MAY 7.45-11.45 pm</p>	<p><b>JUNE</b></p> <p><b>POOL RESERVED for ALL STARS</b> FRIDAY 5 JUNE from 7 pm following <b>SOCCER MATCH</b> at 6 pm</p> <p><b>CMS SUPERSTARS PRESENTATION DISCO</b> SATURDAY 6 JUNE 1987 7.30-11.30 pm (Bar Closes 11 pm)</p>	<p><b>CHILDREN'S DISCO</b> FRIDAY 5 JUNE 7-10 pm with <b>"DISC ATTACK ROADSHOW"</b> Free</p> <p><b>MUSIC IN THE BAR</b> with <b>COCKNEY PRIDE</b> FRIDAY 12 JUNE 1987 8 pm</p> <p><b>MUSIC IN THE BAR</b> with <b>FRENCH KISSES</b> FRIDAY 19 JUNE 1987 8 pm</p>
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## Reaper Club

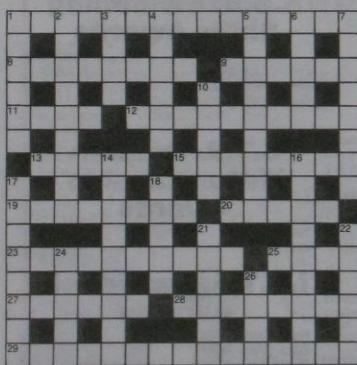
At the February meeting, the postponed A.G.M. was held. All officers were re-appointed, except Mrs. Belson, who stood down for health reasons. There were three nominations to fill the vacancy, and on a vote Mr. Norman Shoebridge was elected.

The entertainment was "Music Hall Memories" by Ashley Davis, and brought a touch of nostalgia, with the pleasure.

The March Meeting welcomed a number of new members, and the dates and venues for the year's outings were announced.

A Supper and Dance had been arranged in the Canteen to provide the opportunity of a social get-together, without formal business.

A pleasant evening was spent, entertained by Susan Lynn and Eddie, in their own particular style.



## Crossword No. 83

For amusement only

### Across

- Travelling neither on LH or RH. (6-2-3-4)
- Captives, usually for ransom. (8)
- Searching deeply, like an animal. (6)
- Holy Man of Mohammedans. (4)
- One of Handel's great compositions. (5-5)
- What one clutches at in a crisis. (5)
- Ask a boatman, they are hard to get rid of. (8)
- Musically, opening piece of a concert. (8)

- A lake, giving name to country. (5)
- To be on the same wavelength. (8-2)
- Starchy substance from palm pith. A pudding. (4)
- What to beware of in falconry. (6)
- One with plenty of go, carries power. (4-4)
- At the beginning and is usually the winner. (2-3-5-5)

### DOWN

- From the angora goat. (6)

- To take apart completely. (9)
- Does not tell the truth. (4)
- The full 24 hrs. (3-3)
- Its a level wager. (4-5)
- Man eating giants. (5)
- When standing all alone. (8)
- The tree of Lebanon. (5)
- A vegetable, similar to spud. (9)
- Not on Spanish del Sol, but over the Ocean. (5-4)
- Name of famous painter poet. (8)
- Fish keeping container. (5)
- A medicine to tone up or cheer. (6)
- The sailor man. (3-3)

- A small island. (5)
- A cry for and service given. (4)

## Solution to Crossword No. 82

**Across**  
1. The bitter end; 10. Ariel; 11. Andromeda; 12. Tricolour; 13. Irene; 14. Casino; 16. Identity; 18. Whipping; 20. Alaska; 23. Needy; 24. Acrobatic; 26. Operation; 27. Litre; 28. Take down a peg.

**Down**  
2. Halli; 3. Ballon; 4. Tea pot; 5. Eldorado; 6. Etonian; 7. Diel-etics; 8. Lattice window; 9. Safety matches; 15. Stile seat; 17. Unvaried; 19. Pay back; 21. Lobelia; 22. Ere now; 25. Tithe.

Photographs taken by the Staff Photographers are acknowledged in the following way: (A) Alan Keats; (B) Ian Douglas.

The views and opinions expressed by contributors are not necessarily those of the Editor or Company. Any such opinions or comments are those of the contributor alone and are printed solely as a matter of interest.

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