

# CONTACT

August 1972



What's Elsie up to?  
(See page 157)



## V.I.P. visits

Sir Peter Menzies, Chairman of the Electricity Council and Deputy Chairman Mr. R. F. Richardson were two Very Important People who recently paid separate visits to our area. They took the opportunity to have a look round our Head Office building, and on Sir Peter's visit, round our Mid-Cheshire District Office.



At Macon Way, Crewe, Sir Peter looks in on the Drawing Office. From left to right, Sir Peter Menzies, Mr. D. G. Dodds (Chairman), Mr. J. W. Trimble (Group Manager), Mr. G. Zeiher (District Engineer) and Mr. G. Osborne (chief draughtsman).



Here we see Sir Peter chatting to four 18-year-old members of the Head Office typing pool, from left to right: Cynthia Vickers, Daphne Walker, Tina King and Gillian Douglas.



Below: When Mr. Richardson visited Head Office, he was joined by his good friend Mr. R N. Pegg, a former Area Manager. In the picture we have, from left to right: Messrs. Richardson, F. J. Brown (Chief Engineer), Dodds, M. R. Cowan (C.C.O.), Pegg, M. M. Parker (Secretary), and D. G. Gwyn (Deputy Chairman).







# CONTACT

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#### Editorial Staff

Keith Baldwin  
John F. Perry  
Sam Doughty

### EDITORIAL

## Investing in People

**W**ITHIN reasonable limits, every individual and organisation must plan to meet the contingencies of the future.

In the spheres of power station and network construction for example, our own industry's forward planning must, in some cases at least, cover a period of several years. Any substantial error in calculating likely future demand for electricity could leave us with a disastrous shortage of capacity on the one hand, or a wasteful and embarrassing surplus on the other.

**It is in terms such as these that most of us tend to think when the subject of forward planning comes to mind, but no less important is our investment in what is sometimes impersonally described as "human resources"—the men and women who will be so essential to the electricity supply industry of the future.**

In this field our record is at least as good as that of any other industry, and this number of *Contact* devotes space to various aspects of the training and educational opportunities available to MANWEB people.

The *Outward Bound* type of course, available to selected young people, may teach nothing of electrical engineering or accountancy, but the challenge of swirling waters and misty heights is often enough to develop latent confidence and qualities of leadership.

For those who wish to make a serious study of our industry, there are the Spring and Summer schools, held in the favourable surroundings of our famous universities, and while not every application meets with first-time success, the determined individual will usually be offered a place in the end.

During the working year, facilities for further study and training are available to MANWEB employees of widely differing categories, with consequent substantial benefit to the individuals concerned and the Board, while awards such as those made under the Study Prize Scheme offer added incentive to keep the nose to the grindstone!

We take this opportunity to repeat the advice so often given by those who write in *Contact* of their course or school experiences—**"If you get the chance—grab it!"**





From  
this



the shop on  
the corner  
at  
**38 Witton St.**



To  
this



the Board's  
new shop at  
**6 Town Square  
Northwich**







One snip and we are open for business at our new shop in Northwich. Miss Patricia Phoenix performs the opening ceremony watched by, from left to right: Mr. Alan Horrocks, Mrs. Diane Archer, Miss Mary Tomlinson and Mr. Dave Pennington. (Picture by Northwich Guardian)

## Our New Shop at Northwich opened by 'Elsie'

**A**FTER seven years' trading at the shop on the corner at 38 Witton Street, Northwich, our staff have now moved into new and larger business premises at 6 Town Square in the shopping precinct in the town centre.

The official opening of the new shop took place on Saturday, July 22nd, when large crowds packed the precinct and our shop to see Miss Patricia Phoenix (*Elsie Tanner of 'Coronation Street'*) cut the tape and declare MANWEB in Northwich open for business. Then for nearly two hours, she stayed in the shop welcoming customers as she extolled the benefits of electricity in the home and signed over 500 autographs.

The ever-increasing demand for domestic electrical appliances, especially in Northwich, prompted Mr. Arthur Evans, our Mid-Cheshire District sales supervisor, to suggest a move to new premises on the grounds of insufficient space and too little storage room at the Witton Street shop.

A survey was then carried out by Mr. Steve Airey,

one of our regional sales controllers, which resulted in the move to the shopping precinct.

A short time ago, the shell of our new shop was taken over and Steve took his ideas to Mr. David Brown of our Civil Engineering section and Dennis Perrin of our Drawing Office and soon things began to take shape, on the drawing board at least.

Building contractors were called in and the plans quickly became a reality.

Now the shop with its 1700 square feet of ground floor space provides a 60 per cent increase in the selling area over the old premises. There are also  
*(continued overleaf)*

**OUR COVER PICTURE** shows Miss Patricia Phoenix (*our Elsie of 'Coronation Street'*) still managing to raise that happy smile as she faces some of the 500 autograph hunters after she had officially opened our new shop at Northwich.



better facilities for the staff with a small dining room and the usual offices upstairs, together with a spacious stock room for small appliances and for odd pieces of display material and an office for the shop supervisor, Mr. Dave Pennington.

**This is a shop of special features, one of these being the audio boutique on the sales floor where a comprehensive range of radios, record players and tape recorders—stereo and mono—is on show.**

Around four years ago, the Board started selling radios in a tentative way. As sales grew we moved on to record players and tape recorders and then to full scale audio equipment including the very latest quad-stereo sound. Audio is now big business and profitable business for MANWEB.

Above the new audio section in the Northwich shop is a decorative panel with guitars superimposed

*For the unwelcome visitor there is a surprise in store for an intricate burglar alarm system has been installed, one especially designed for the premises.*

The shop window is relatively small when compared to the wall area inside the shop, but the window has been incorporated in the design as part of the sales floor and customers outside the shop can see right through on to the sales floor without their view being impeded by the usual window displays.

Excellent use has been made of the wall area with the use of adjustable easy-clean formica-clad shelving carrying a large range of small appliances, leaving the floor area clear for the heavier cookers and washing machines, etc.

The shop wall claddings are constructed of removable and interchangeable sections which can



With one exception, these young fans seem to be happy in 'Elsie's' company.

on bars of music, all gaily painted and neatly designed. Still in the entertainments field, for the first time in our Northwich shop, Spectra televisions can be rented.

#### **Fully Carpeted**

Another innovation for a MANWEB shop is the fully-carpeted shop floor. As the customer enters the shop from the busy and noisy precinct, she steps on to an area of special matting in the doorway. This has a highly absorbent pile surface which gives immediate contact-drying and cleansing of the soles of the shoes. Then the customer continues into the shop walking quietly on the soft luxury carpeting.

easily be taken down and re-decorated in a matter of minutes, and then replaced or re-positioned in any part of the shop, so changing the colour scheme in a very short space of time.

The lighting of the premises has been the job for Mr. Ted Johnson, a 3rd assistant engineer in the Installation Design section of our Commercial Department.

The general shop lighting is by decorative fluorescent units with the wall-mounted displays illuminated by a continuous line of fluorescent tubes concealed behind the pelmets. The main source of light in the window area is by tungsten Halogen fittings which are intended to give a high level of illumination as





Mr. Pennington gets in the picture as his wife Nora presents Miss Phoenix with a bouquet of flowers.

well as producing an attractive sparkle on the appliances on display.

Selective switching and the use of individual spot and flood-lights give the display staff plenty of scope for their creative skills.

All the wiring circuits for the many socket outlets, heater points, TV and radio aerial outlets and telephone points are fitted into twin-compartment plastic skirting trunking. This is an economical method of carrying the wiring and caters for any future additions or alterations to the installation.

With the exception of certain security lights, the whole of the shop installation is time-switch controlled, and allows for display lighting to operate after normal business hours.

Heating in the shop area is by an Electricaire unit with floor grills, and this is supplemented by fan-

**The Planners**—from left to right: Mr. David Brown, Mr. Steve Airey and Mr. Dennis Perrin. (Mr. Ted Johnson missed the picture as he was on holiday).



assisted storage radiators. The upper floor is warmed by conventional storage radiators.

Outside the normal heating season, the fan in the Electricaire unit is used in conjunction with the shop extractor fans to provide a regular supply of clean dust-free air to the sales area.

All the electrical contracting work on the new shop was expertly carried out by our electricians from the Mid-Cheshire District.

This is the latest of the Board's new shops and it incorporates many new ideas using the very latest materials and techniques in building and shop fitting.

In addition to the audio boutique, the TV section, the fully-carpeted shop floor, the burglar alarm system, the removable wall cladding, the special lighting effects and the heating and ventilation

Our new shop at Northwich is at . . .  
6 Town Square.

The telephone number is . . .  
Northwich 6758

#### OUR STAFF AT NORTHWICH SHOP

Mr. Dave Pennington, *shop supervisor.*

Mr. Alan Horrocks, *senior sales assistant.*

Mrs. Diane Archer, *sales assistant.*

Miss Mary Tomlinson, *sales assistant.*

Mrs. Nancy Szostek, *cashier.*

and part-time sales assistants Mrs. Jill Barnard,  
Mrs. Mary Hudson, Mrs. Sandra Stanier and  
Mrs. Kath Wilkinson.

system, there is the tastefully illuminated fascia, the security cash area with its bandit-proof glass screen, the armour-plated glass door etched with the MANWEB logo, and, in the upper rooms, sheet vinyl flooring with welded seam joints.

The shop presents a sophisticated appearance inside and out, in keeping with the modern architectural trends, and fits perfectly in the present-day precinct idea of shopping.

The cost of fitting out the complete unit runs out at less than £6 per square foot, based on the sales area, which at today's high prices is very very reasonable and reflects great credit to all who have worked on it.

Incidentally, on opening day, our staff were certainly kept busy as they took over £3,000-worth of business, and this included the sales of 34 refrigerators! Eight television sets were also rented!

It really looks as if we have made the right move to the right place at the right time.





Superintendent Sutherland presents Mr. H. B. Powell with his certificate for fifteen years' Safe Driving, as other award recipients gather round. On the extreme left is Mr. E. T. Peters (District Engineer) and on the extreme right, Mr. T. P. Shell (District Administrative Officer).

## More Safe Drivers in Dee Valley District

Sixty-six members of our staff based at Chester, Ellesmere Port and Shotton in the Dee Valley District received Safe Driving Awards recently.

Superintendent William Sutherland, Deputy Commander of the Chester City Division of the Cheshire Constabulary, who went along to make the presentations, said that the police authorities set great store by the ROSPA awards which encouraged safe driving.

He went on to say that road accidents took up a lot of police manpower with the subsequent investigations and reporting and that it was his job to decide if any proceedings were to be taken following an accident. He said that he often wondered as he looked at the number of cases if there were any safe drivers on the roads.

"Coming here today to meet so many who have earned their awards pleases me very much," he went on.

### Startling Statistics

Superintendent Sutherland then disclosed some startling statistics, one of which was that every 80 seconds of every day, someone is either killed or injured on our roads. He said that these accidents cost the country hundreds of millions of pounds, but apart from the hard cash, there was the untold misery brought about by the deaths and the injuries.

He then concluded his short but interesting talk by congratulating all the drivers on their achievements especially when overcoming the frustrations of traffic jams, especially in Chester with the holiday

motorists often hauling caravans through the centre of the town.

The recipients of the various awards were as follows:

**Bar to 20-Year Brooch:** Mr. A. Davies.

**Bar to 15-Year Brooch:** Messrs. F. Anglesea, E. Blackburn, K. G. Burdon, F. Massey and C. G. Smith.

**15-Year Brooch:** Messrs. H. B. Powell, A. V. Roberts and J. E. Taylor.

**Bar to 10-Year Medal:** Messrs. E. A. Bennett, W. J. Burton, R. G. Cotterell, R. J. Harrison, F. Hodson and A. R. Jonas.

**10-Year Medal:** Messrs. W. T. Allman, H. Bunn, I. A. John and J. F. Owen.

**Bar to 5-Year Medal:** Messrs. J. Ashbrook, C. Bowyer, E. P. Frost, G. F. Grindley, D. C. Hall, G. A. Johnson, F. Newall, L. Sefton and J. M. Williams.

**5-Year Medal:** Messrs. R. F. Hood, F. Mealing and T. Taylor.

**Diploma:** Messrs. P. Ankers, J. W. Astbury, C. D. Birtles, G. Brown, F. T. Byrom, W. H. Clegg, G. A. Davies, R. Davies, P. Edwards, P. A. Elphee, B. Fawkes, D. A. Fickling, F. Gerrard, J. Gerrard, B. Griffiths, L. D. Hughes, B. E. Jones, H. D. Jones, J. Kelly, R. C. Lanceley, J. B. Lawson, D. J. Lynch, G. G. Martin, P. Meredith, R. Merryweather, S. J. O'Brian, L. Ridgeway, C. Robinson, E. K. Salisbury, T. M. Shone, D. Smallman, G. Swift, D. H. Williams, M. Williams and E. Wilson.



## District Sales Staff Visit Head Office



*Above: Miss Mary Martin (machine operator) left, demonstrates the 865 Roneo Duplicator to Miss June Berry (South Lancashire) and Mrs. Sandra Stanier (Northwich).*

As part of their training schedule, members of the Wallasey Sales Training Course 258 visited Head Office. On this page we show pictures of them taken in the Reprographic Section.



*Above: From left to right: Mrs. Rose Ferguson (Kirby), Mrs. Sheila Alcock (Crewe) and Miss Anne Owen (Llangefni) are instructed on the workings of a Multilith ASC Printing Machine by Miss Linda Preater (machine operator).*



*Left: The male quartet show interest in the Rank Xerox Photocopier, explained by Mrs. Pamela Williams (supervisor). The visitors, from left to right: Messrs. Stephen Dillon (Widnes), Haydn Sims (Aberystwyth), Anthony Charnock (St. Helens) and John Hughes (Chwyd District).*



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## JACK WEBB—

# *Shop Supervisor with a craftsman's skill in his hands*

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**N**O ONE would think that our supervisor at the Middlewich shop, the chap who attends to the steady flow of customers with quiet and pleasant efficiency, is a man with a flair for most things mechanical. Mind you, when looking back on the most interesting life of Mr. Jack Webb, we find that many years ago, as a young man, he trained as a constructional and mechanical engineer. This no doubt accounts for the way his brain still functions today.

The slump of the late 1920's put an abrupt end to Jack's training and he had to look for work in another profession. He managed to get a job in a cake factory and later moved over to work in the

**A proud Mr. Webb with his first vintage car which cost him £8 about 25 years ago.**



**Mr. Jack Webb—the man with a flair—presents this friendly picture to the customers at our Middlewich shop.**

offices of a biscuit factory. It was around this time that the factory introduced one of the first continuous process production plants to be used in this country. It had its teething troubles but it was soon found that although employed as a cost clerk, Jack was the man with the flair for discovering what was going wrong with the mechanical giant.

Then along came the war in 1939 and Jack was drafted into an ordnance factory. Here again it was found that he had experience in mass production methods and his talents were put to good use when he was asked to set up a system for the mass production of armaments. Later he worked in an experimental section and on one occasion, again by using his flair for mechanics, he was able to discover why the machine guns were jamming in aircraft used in some theatres of war. Jack's methods were practical and basic rather than the drawing board and theoretical methods of the boffins.

With the conflict over, Jack turned his attention to an interest that had been with him since his youth . . . motor cars. His father, serving with the Royal Engineers, had helped Jack cut his teeth on the solid tyres of the cars of yesteryear.

### **His first car**

Later Jack spent many hours tinkering with cars and engines until one day when he went to help a car-breaker friend tow in a damaged car. It was an Austin Cambridge 1926 vintage. Jack's eyes lit



up when he saw it and at once he decided to buy it. It cost him £8, and that was a lot of money for him 25 years ago. He soon got down to repairing and renovating the car and ran it for a while before selling it. The car is now somewhere in the United States of America.

Round about this time Jack joined MANWEB, working in the cashier's section at Eversley before moving to the former Northwich District. Many friends at Lock Street will no doubt remember those days by the river when Jack turned up with a 'Y' model Ford. Just the general outline of a 'Y' model that is! It was in a rough state and among other things missing were the wings. Most of the lads thought that Jack had finally gone out of his mind.

But he quietly got on with the job of making paper formes to a desired shape before covering them with pitch and then, hey presto!, he had the shape of the wings to come. He next obtained some 20 gauge sheets of metal and spent many patient hours with a blow lamp and a couple of hammers until a set of new wings were made and fitted snugly to the body of the car. With a few other repairs and the engine tuned the car was ready for the road.

Jack had it for a couple of years before selling it in order to buy a 1928/30 Morris 8. This provided him

with more hours of hard but interesting work before he had it running smoothly. Then he sold it.

### The Lagonda

The next car on the scene was a 1926 Lagonda. It had no gear box to speak of and no crank shaft, but Jack saw its possibilities and paid out £800 for it. A far cry from the £8 he gave for his first car!

By this time Jack had a helper, David, one of his three sons. David had inherited the same enthusiasm for cars as his father. They hunted around for ideas and methods of making a gear box and soon in a small workshop in Timperley they were hard at work with pieces of phosphor bronze metal and 3-inch copper tubing—for the exhaust system—and the beautiful Lagonda began to take shape as a working car again. When the mechanics were finished, the whole car had a repaint job done and now it is the pride and joy of Jack and son. Incidentally, the last offer they had for it was £2,250.

Jack's flair tells him that his Lagonda is the best in this country today.

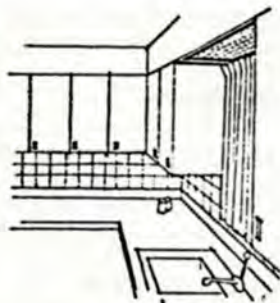
*If any of our readers know of an old car stuck in someone's garage, with the owner wishing to be rid of it, providing that the car is of the pre-1930 vintage, then get in touch with Jack at our Middlewich shop and he will be off like a shot to make a fair offer.*

**The 1926 Lagonda, as it was when Mr. Webb bought it from the owner, shown in the picture. It looked in perfect order, but the gear box and crank shaft needed a lot of hard work before the vintage model was ready for the road.**





## LIGHTED SOFFITS



Soffits over work areas are designed to provide higher level of light directly below. Usually they are easily installed in furred-down area over sink in kitchen. Also are excellent for niches over sofas, pianos, built-in desks, etc.



## LIGHTED CORNICES

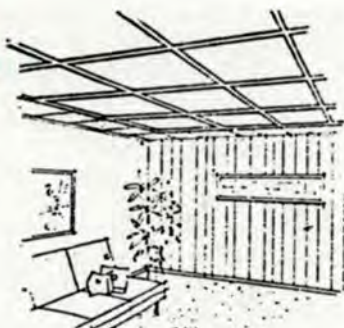
Cornices direct all their light downward to give dramatic interest to wall coverings, draperies, murals, etc. May also be used over windows where space above window does not permit valance lighting. Good for low-ceilinged rooms.

## LUMINOUS WALL PANELS



Luminous wall panels create pleasant vistas; are comfortable background for seeing tasks; add luxury touch in dining areas, family rooms and as room dividers. Wide variety of decorative materials available for diffusing covers.

## LUMINOUS CEILINGS



Totally luminous ceilings provide skylight effect very suitable for interior rooms or utility spaces, such as kitchens, baths, laundries. With attractive diffuser patterns, more decorative supports, and color accents they become acceptable for many other living spaces such as family rooms, dens, etc. Dimming controls desirable.



## LIGHTED VALANCES

Valances are always used at windows, usually with draperies. They provide up-light which reflects off ceiling for general room lighting and down-light for drapery accent. When closer to ceiling than 10 inches use closed top to eliminate annoying ceiling brightness.

## LIGHTED CANOPIES



The canopy overhang is most applicable to bath or dressing room. It provides excellent general room illumination as well as light to the user's face.



# LIGHTING for LIVING

By  
MR. GERRY WORTHINGTON  
LIGHTING ENGINEER  
EMERY SALLS



In the two previous issues of 'Contact' I have been able to briefly discuss the general aspects of home lighting and how various factors such as lamp placement, characteristics of the shade and the position of the light source can all affect the overall efficiency and effect.

No doubt due to the much higher standards of lighting that we now encounter when we visit the 'local' or dine out in some swish restaurant, a growing number of people are incorporating "custom made" lighting in their own homes.

This is achieved by utilising the structure, or structural elements of the house, such as the space between joists, as part of the luminaire. Structural lighting includes not only those widely used examples illustrated but also such applications as bookshelves with integral concealed lighting, illuminated niches, artificial skylights, extended soffits, illuminated handrails, display cabinets, full luminous ceilings and many others.

The principal advantage of structural lighting is its close correlation with the architecture of the room, offering a very unobtrusive method of providing light. Perhaps its principle disadvantage is the fact that there is so much freedom of choice its difficult to decide exactly what to do for the best effect.

The principle considerations for anyone adopting structural forms of lighting must be to ensure that the installation will be architecturally acceptable, that it will be reasonably simple to construct, and will provide an optimum of lighting quality and effect.

The same basic considerations of lamp concealment, diffuser brightness, direction of light and colour that have been mentioned before apply here also.

Structural lighting is usually designed to employ the use of fluorescent tubes. These lamps are available in sizes from 2 feet 20W to 8 feet 125W, and are roughly divided into two main categories: those with

high efficiency and those which provide good colour rendering. High efficiency lamps (white, warm white, daylight) give a large amount of light and are used where the colour appearance of objects they illuminate is of secondary importance.

The other category, often referred to as "de-luxe" lamps, give only one half to three quarters of the light from high efficiency lamps, but with the colour appearance of people and objects much more acceptable.

The better colour rendering lamps should be used throughout the home, ensuring that all tubes are shielded from direct view, to minimise glare and enhance effect.

The following examples will, I hope, provide a few ideas. Experimenting in this way will produce a unique lighting scheme which will reflect the personality of each home.

## **Don't forget our two competitions—**

### **The Girl from MANWEB 1973**

Entry forms from *The Editor*, "Contact," Head Office, Sealand Road, Chester CH1 4LR. (Internal telephone 2164/2166/2167)

**Closing Date: 1st November 1972.**

Do not delay. Get your entry form in NOW!

### **Photographic Competition**

**Colour Section**—transparencies and prints

**Black and White**—portrait and general

Copies of the rules for this year's competition available from *The Editor*, "Contact," at the above address.

**Closing Date: 30th September 1972.**

Get your entries in quickly please.



# SPORTS PAGES

## Cricket

There has been a very slow start to the season, but the leather and the willow finally got together when teams were formed, challenges issued and matches played.

A team from Head Office Revenue section took a trip to Rhuddlan where they played a team from our Clwyd District.

Batting first, in brilliant sunshine, a youthful Chester side scored a creditable 85 for the loss of six wickets in their allotted 20 overs. David Robinson, Paul Burleson, Laurence Kirby and Rob Jones contributed useful scores.

Unfortunately the Revenue bowlers were not as successful as the batsmen. Although the runs came very slowly during the first ten overs, a savage onslaught by Winston Hughes and Derek Young gave victory to the home team in the 18th over.

Other matches played during the past few weeks featured the Head Office Secretarial Department. Their first encounter was against a team from the Financial Department who they beat in a very enjoyable game.

In another match, played at Hoole, the Secretarial team went into battle against a Chester Solicitors XI. We won the toss and batted first on a fast, hard wicket, and in spite of some keen bowling (and Reg Keen fielding as a substitute for them), our lads managed to knock-up 81 for the loss of six wickets in the allotted 20 overs. John Greenhalgh (16), George Bent (13) and Don Andrews (27 not out) all did very well with the bat.

The Solicitors put on 13 runs

before losing their first wicket, but tight bowling from Tom Dutton (1 for 13), and George Harrison (3 for 12), backed up by some excellent fielding, kept the run rate down. At the end of their 20 overs, the Solicitors had only managed to reach 70 runs for the loss of seven wickets, giving a well deserved victory to the MANWEB team.

When stumps were drawn, both teams set off in a convoy of cars, headed by Nick Williams in his '1937 conveyance' to a Christleton local for some well-earned refreshments.

## Golf

The E.E.I.B.A. golf tournament was held at the Prenton Golf Club last month.

Among the major prizewinners was Mr. Derek Jones (*senior assistant engineer—Design*) who won the Brittain Bowl for the best nett score.

Mr. A. Kidd (*Assistant Secretary—Personnel*), qualified for the National Finals to be held on September 25th at the St. Pierre Golf Club, Chepstow.

## Bowls

THIS is a game which has many dedicated adherents with quite a number of them working for the Board at Head Office. They seem to be strongest in the Engineering section for recently they held a successful competition on the green at the rear of a Chester public house.

The final game was played between Messrs. Arthur Cooper (*principal assistant engineer, Operation*) and Edwin Tyldesley (*3rd assistant engineer, Planning*) who beat Messrs. Dave Ferguson

(*special projects-Planning*) and Eric Dodd (*senior clerical assistant*)

There is a stretch of lawn at the rear of the Head Office building which, although not up to bowling green standard, can be used by the enthusiast for keeping his bowling arm under control.

Our picture on this page shows the four finalists trying out the 'green' at Head Office.

## Football

THE Electric Supply Football Club (Liverpool) was formed in 1932 and for the last 40 years have played as members of the Liverpool Shipping League.

They have had their ups and downs during this period and in recent years have enjoyed terrific success in winning the First Division Championship and the First Division Cup. They reached the quarter-finals of the Lancashire Amateur Cup and have had some stirring battles in the Liverpool Amateur Cup competition.

The first team are now moving out of the Shipping League and have been accepted to play in the Liverpool County Football Combination, which is regarded as the top amateur league in the area. We shall still be represented in the Shipping League by our second team.

In Liverpool, where for twelve months every year soccer is the main topic of conversation, the Liverpool Combination league is to amateurs like the First Division is to professionals. The matches will be tough and very competitive, with every game like a cup final. Our lads are looking forward to the challenge, as over the years the Club have fostered and developed a good spirit of fellowship both on and off the field.

They enjoy excellent training facilities at the home ground at Thingwall Road, where the ground itself, the dressing rooms



and other facilities come up to the high standard demanded by the Liverpool County Football Combination.

There is an additional benefit of a super clubhouse—with bar and catering facilities. Here, after a match, win or lose, the visitors can be royally entertained.

Social evenings are held here in aid of the Electric Supply football teams when players with their wives and/or girl friends, spend many pleasant evenings in the good company of each other.

Due to the Board's re-organisation programme, the teams have lost one or two good players as they have moved to other jobs within the Board's area. They are now on the look-out for any young man working for MANWEB, who enjoys a good game of football. The area for recruitment for the teams is limitless, as long as you can get to Thingwall Road for training and of course, for matches.

In addition to staff in the Liverpool and North Mersey Districts, if you work in North Wirral District or maybe in the South Lancashire District and live around Runcorn, Widnes, St. Helens or Warrington then get in touch with Mr. Charles Lamb at Head Office or Bob McMinn at Lister Drive and they will let you know about the Tuesday night training sessions which have already started, and the half-dozen friendly games which are to take place prior to the start of the season.

NOTE TO ALL DISTRICT SPORTS AND SOCIAL CLUB SECRETARIES. Please let The Editor know of any sports or social event you may be running in your District.

## WHO SAID WE'D NEVER WIN ANYTHING?

Report by George Harrison

The Football Season 1971/72 was another year of consolidation for the MANWEB F.C. team from Head Office playing in the 2nd Division of the Welsh League (Halkyn Area). The highlight of the season was the award to the team by the League of the trophy "For the most sporting team in the League." MANWEB F.C. who are an offshoot—literally!—of the MANWEB (Chester) Sports and Social Club did not have one player "sent off" or "booked" during the whole of the season, although they came very close to it on innumerable occasions!

The courtesy of the MANWEB F.C. team is well known, and unfortunately exploited by the other teams. The goalkeeper cannot bear to see the look of anguish on the face of an opposing centre forward when he saves a shot, so he ensures that such looks occur only at very infrequent intervals. The full backs' polite "after you" is invariably accepted by their respective wingers whilst the ageing half back line look on aghast at the impoliteness of their opponents.

The forwards (*I shall not use the word "strikers" in order to avoid possible prosecution under the Trade Descriptions Act*) occasionally venture over the half way line into their opponents territory but, like all well mannered people who find themselves in strange surroundings, they do not do anything to upset their hosts.

This polite and sporting attitude

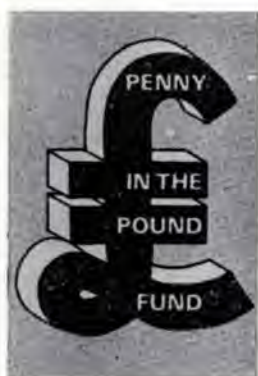


George Harrison with the 'Sporting team Statuette.'

to their opponents extends also to the officials. MANWEB players never directly challenge the parentage of the referee, although the requests of a number of players for invitations to the wedding of the official's mother and father have not been acceded to. Similarly, flag waving line men are never told where to deposit their flags, but merely asked how long they have been working for British Rail. Pleased as they are with the trophy, the team is determined that the retention of it will not be their prime aim for the 1972/73 season.

On a more serious note, football training will take place every Wednesday evening during the season and will have commenced by the time this article goes to press. All those interested in playing next season should contact Nigel Crossley (*Internal Telephone No. 2743*), but any Sports Club member wishing to participate in the training sessions will be welcome.





## More Pennies and Bigger Benefits

**M**ANY thousands of people, faced with the financial and domestic problems brought about by illness and spells in hospital, have good reason to be glad that they decided to join the Merseyside Hospital Council's "Penny in the Pound" fund.

Benefits paid by the Fund were last revised in 1967, and recently the Council decided that rising expenses during hospitalisation, and charges for dentures and spectacles, might well call for further revision.

To ascertain the views of contributors, questionnaires were circulated and the replies returned represented the views of over 100,000 contributors. The survey showed that they were willing to pay more provided that the benefits help when their need is greatest, e.g. after discharge from hospital, when charges are made or when income is reduced on retirement.

It also showed that the general body of contributors were not interested in a very large In-Patient Grant, but preferred a variety of worthwhile benefits.

**Some 90 per cent were in favour of a doubled contribution to 10p per week, or 43p per month, to make the increases possible.**

The wishes expressed by the contributors are being put into practice on October 1st when the doubled contribution and new benefits come into operation.

All the benefits have been increased and leaflets and posters giving full details will be widely distributed in the Autumn.

The change in benefits and conditions are shown below:

### **In-Patient Hospital Grants**

Contributor £1.50 per day, £10.50 per week.

Wife (non-contributor) 40p per day, £2.80 per week.

Children 25p per day, £1.75 per week.

Pensioners and wives 40p per day, £2.80 per week.

Maximum claim 13 weeks in any three year period.

(The old rates allowed maximum claim of 10 weeks in any 4 years, and the weekly benefit for a contributor was only £6.30. The new scale reflects similar benefit increases in the other categories).

### **Continuation Sickness Grant**

50p per day, £3.50 per week. Four weeks maximum following discharge from hospital if still unfit.

### **Out-Patient Hospital Grant**

50p per day, £3.50 per week. (Payable for 13 weeks in any three year period).

### **Maternity Grant**

Only one claim per baby—£7.50. Period of in-patient stay covered by grant—10 days.

### **Optical Grants**

For contributor only—one pair of glasses £2.50, two pairs or bifocals £4. (Payable once in two years).

### **Dental Grant**

For contributor only—one upper or lower set of dentures £2.50, full set £4. (Payable once in two years).

### **Convalescent Cash Grants**

Full contributor £3 per week. Wife of contributor £2 per week. Pensioners and wives £2 per week.

The questionnaire returned showed an almost unanimous request for better benefits for pensioners without them having to pay additional contributions. To meet this, the old-age pensioner contribution will remain at 1p per week although the benefits for the retired contributors are being more than doubled.

Additionally, on retirement, members previously had to drop to the lower contribution rate with the corresponding drop in benefits, but as many people wished to continue to be entitled to full benefit, the rule has now been changed to allow retired members to continue contributing at the full rate if they wish to do so.

At present, free membership is granted to retired contributors aged 70 or over who have paid for the previous ten years, but on October 1st, this will apply at age 65.

About 950 MANWEB employees, and 300 pensioners, currently contribute to the Fund, but ALL employees are eligible to join, regardless of where they live in the Board's area, and can claim benefit if they are hospitalised in their own locality or even abroad.

Contributions can be deducted direct from pay, and forms are available from the Welfare Section at Head Office or from your own District Administrative Officer.



# Summer Breaks

**T**HIRTY young people from MANWEB, half of them craft apprentices, have already been on, or are preparing to go on, a variety of courses, some on land and others at sea, at places as far away as France and Scotland.

Among those selected for places on these courses are three of our young ladies for the Rhowniar Outward Bound School at Towyn in Merioneth. A few weeks ago, two of the girls, Pamela Hardman (*Head Office Accounts*) and Susan Ann Malbon (*Mid-Cheshire District*), were there when H.R.H. Princess Anne paid a visit to the School.

A brief report from Pamela on her stay at Rhowniar appears elsewhere in this issue.

Our third girl, Janine E. Rawson (*Head Office, Commercial*) is at this moment on her month's course.

Another story in this issue of 'Contact' is from Mr. Robert Moore (*Head Office Accounts*),

who attended the course at Brathay Hall a short time ago.

Others selected for places are as follows:

## **The West Highland School for Adventure, Applecross, Ross-shire.**

*Student engineers:* Messrs. Bernard Brady, Thomas G. Egerton, Stephen R. Griffin, Paul Harrison and Andrew James.

*Craft apprentices:* Messrs. Peter Ashcroft and William C. Davin (*North Mersey*); Kevin F. J. Buckett, Kenneth V. Davies and Philip L. Dunn (*Liverpool*); William R. Berry (*South Lancashire*); David Spencer (*Dee Valley*); Philip J. Currie (*North Wirral*); Bryan W. Flint (*Mid-Cheshire*); Michael S. Roberts (*Clwyd*);

Michael Hickey (*Gwynedd*).

## **Brathay Hall**

Messrs. Martin D. Cross (*Head Office, Secretarial*) and Robert Moore (*Head Office, Accounts*); David H. Watkins (*North Wirral*); David M. Jones (*Clwyd*).

**Sail Training Association Cruises**  
Messrs. Paul Glover (*Liverpool*) and craft apprentice Peter G. O'Brien (*North Wirral*).

**Summer School, Loughborough**  
Messrs. Kenneth Taylor (*student engineer*) and craft apprentices Ian Baxter (*Clwyd*), Gordon C. Clarke (*Mid-Cheshire*) and Colin H. Keam (*South Lancashire*).

Incidentally, the man in charge of the course at Loughborough Summer School was our own Education and Training Officer, Mr. J. L. W. Ladner.

Last, but by no means least, was the visit to France by student engineer Allan L. Reid. We hope to feature his story in the next issue of 'Contact.'

## WEDDING

Best wishes for a very happy future go to Mr. Alan Galbraith and Jennifer Pyemont, who were married at Llangorwen Church recently.

Both are members of our Aberystwyth District staff, Alan is a senior clerical assistant and Jennifer is a general clerk.

Their friends in the District presented them with some very homely items as wedding gifts—a steam iron, a frying pan and a carpet sweeper.

## FOR SALE

1600E 'H' registration Cortina in aubergine with black interior. Usual refinements; excellent condition throughout. £825—no offers please. Contact: Mr. R. D. Sharvin, Mid-Cheshire District Office, Macon Way, Crewe. (Tel. G.P.O. Crewe 55171. Internal 136).

## Nellie leaves Pumpfields

Our picture, below, shows some members of our Test House staff saying their goodbyes to Mrs. E. (Nellie) Mulhearn who, for many years, has been keeping the place tidy and bringing in 'the brew' at regular intervals. Mrs. Mulhearn joined the Board about twelve years ago and worked at our Kensington shop for part of the time and at Paradise Street for the rest of the time. Later she worked at the Whitechapel shop and then for a period at Head Office in Love Lane before moving to the Test House at Pumpfields.

Saying their farewells to Nellie are, from left to right: Messrs. T. H. Owen (*test engineer*), J. T. Lornie (*senior assistant engineer, Technical Services*), A. Edmunds (*installation inspector*) and J. R. Whittle (*electrician*).





# Team-Work at Brathay Hall

Story by **ROBERT MOORE**  
(Stores Accounts Head Office)

**B**RATHAY HALL is situated on the outskirts of Ambleside, in the Lake District, and every year hundreds of young people take part in courses there. The main test of the course is to live and work in harmony in a tightly-knit group for a month, learning to trust, care for, and respect each other, gradually becoming aware of each other's skills and weaknesses, and being able to utilise them to fit the situation. At the Hall there are numerous activities at which to test your skills, ranging from art and drama to boating and mountaineering.

On this particular course there were fifty taking part, and we were divided into five dormitories of ten. These were to be our working groups for the course.

The first days of the course were taken up with lectures and films, including talks on leadership and working in a group, mountain safety, and first aid. The films on mountain safety and first aid were very beneficial, showing how to deal with practically every situation that could arise on the mountains. The films also illustrated the importance of wearing the right clothes on the mountains.

After this initial preparation our first main task came when we had our first expedition on the mountains. On this and subsequent expeditions we were accompanied by an instructor, who stayed in the background only to come to the fore if and when advice was needed. After this, and every exercise, we had a debriefing session, at which we discussed how the group fared at the outset, during the task, and at the completion of the task. We also had a chance to criticise the captain of the day and the group as a whole, and individually.

During the days that we were not on the mountains our time was taken up with other pursuits, such as cross country orientation (an enjoyable exercise in navigation), and boating, which included sailing and rowing. Both were exciting and rewarding. At the end of the course we had a regatta. This was a good way of putting the teachings of the course into practice—how to handle the boats, leadership and group work. Earlier on in the course we were given various projects to do, including crossing the lake on a raft built by our group. Group work and

leadership were all important in these activities, because to complete the projects successfully we had to work as a group, and to have a leader to co-ordinate the group's ideas.

Less strenuous, but still as demanding, were drama and art. Although these needed less physical effort we had to try and use our imaginations to the fullest extent, and the rewards were very gratifying. On the last night of the course we had to put on a play. For this we split into two groups so that two plays could be produced. These plays were written and produced by the group and, although they were not great literary works, they gave us a chance to make some social comments.

After a two day expedition came the climax of the course, the three day expedition. This time we were sent out without an instructor. Considering the conditions, all of the groups did amazingly well. Temperatures in the eighties made walking hazardous with heat exhaustion a growing danger as the day progressed. Unfortunately lady luck was not on our side, and we had two cases of heat exhaustion. One recovered in a couple of hours but the other was a stretcher case, and we had to call out the Mountain Rescue Team. Our basic training was a great benefit in this situation, in which there was a sense of urgency but no panic, and people just got on with what they were supposed to be doing. This expedition brought the course to a rewarding and fulfilling close.

On the whole, I think the course was a success. This was due to the fact that the instructors were friendly, helpful and co-operative, and this led to us respecting them and trying to prove to them that we were worthy of their trust. The instruction given on the course was ample, because the point of the course was to learn from our own mistakes. Discipline was mainly self imposed, with very few rules set up by the Hall—none of them petty, just common sense.

On the course we were all made captain for a number of activities. This was a good idea because it made everyone realise the responsibility of being in charge of a group.

At the beginning of the course the majority of people had doubts about how the course would relate to their every-day jobs. By the end these doubts were dispelled. The course taught us to get to know the people we work with better, how to help them if they had any problems, and to have trust in them. It also taught us to put our skills to the use of the group, to play a full part in the group, to try to unite the group and to help the leader. Most important of all we learned not to run away from difficulties, and to be prepared to take responsibilities. On reflection, it was a most enjoyable and worthwhile course.



# Outward Bound

Story by PAMELA HARDMAN

(clerk, Stores Accounts, Head Office)

I was one of about 80 girls on a course at the Outward Bound School, Rhowniar, which is between Towyn and Aberdovey in Merioneth, North Wales.

The school consists of a large old house, with a modern extension. It is set in wooded grounds, with beautiful gardens.

One of the highlights of my days there was the visit of H.R.H. Princess Anne. She toured the school and saw the various activities being undertaken by the girls.

At times the course was quite tough and presented some challenges to overcome. I am afraid of heights and not very happy in water, and yet two of the activities were rock climbing and canoeing!

Thanks to the expert tuition of the instructors and the availability of the correct gear and safety equipment, I soon gained confidence and was enjoying myself scrambling up rock faces and paddling about in the canoes.

In the confines of the school

we learnt the theory of such things as climbing, we practised map reading and the use of the compass. Then we went out on expeditions camping overnight, putting our schoolroom lessons to the test.

Each girl took her turn to lead her group—there were about 10 or 11 to each group—the object being to build confidence in our own ability. The instructors were very helpful. They never tried to force us to do anything, just encouraged and showed us what to do. Seeing the other girls try out things made one think 'If she can do it so can I!'

As the course was quite strenuous, the evenings were usually spent quietly, and bed was a welcome sight. We did however have one or two 'sing song' evenings, with the instructors bringing out their guitars.

I enjoyed every minute of the course and I am grateful to MANWEB for selecting me to go. I feel I have gained quite a



Pamela Hardman

bit from my stay at Rhowniar. I feel fitter and I am a lot more self-confident, and my advice to anyone who has a chance to get onto one of these courses is—'Grab it.' You will be surprised just what you are able to do!

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## JUNE CROSSWORD

## Prizewinners and Solution

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The prize crossword set by **Mr. C. S. Shimmin** (*system engineer, North Mersey District*), which appeared in the June issue of 'Contact' brought in a great number of entries.

However, there could only be the three winners, and they were:

**Miss Janet Griffiths**, North Wirral District Office, Birkenhead

**Mrs. M. J. Winterburn**, Gwynedd District Office, Caernarvon.

**Mr. Bob Jones**, Stores Accounts Section, Head Office, Chester.

They receive prizes of £2 each.  
Solution: Across—1 Not on your life. 10 Err. 12 Treat. 14 Ate.

15 Ament. 17 Rick. 19 Gnus. 20 Daemonics. 21 Abbess. 24 Guests. 27 Moist. 28 Shy. 29 Tupik. 30 Add. 31 Man. 32 Creed. 34 Row. 35 Splits. 37 Oddcap. 39 Gainst. 40 Amate-tome. 41 Imam. 42 Dock. 44 Lisps. 45 Bib. 47 Veers. 48 Ale. 49 Gets on my trail.

Down—2 Over. 3 Outcast. 4 Yea. 5 Orthochrome film. 6 Ure. 7 Lean cut. 8 Foes. 9 Stream. 11 At risk. 13 Aides-de-camp. 16 Museum piece. 18 Kes. 19 Gig. 22 Board. 23 Bided. 25 Spain. 26 Tints. 32 Comely. 33 Damasks. 35 Samovar. 36 Stress. 38 Pam. 39 God. 41 Isle. 43 Kepi. 45 Ban. 46 Bey.



## College Courses for MANWEB staff

THE 1972 series of Spring and Summer Schools organised by The Electricity Council for all employees in our industry, began with a School at Corpus Christi College, Cambridge in March.

This in a way was a special school for it was the 100th to be held under the scheme, and MANWEB were well represented with three members of our staff on the course. They were, Messrs. I. Morris (*senior clerical assistant, Dee Valley*), R. Murray (*jointer, Mid-Cheshire*) and J. E. Wynne (*linesman, Gwynedd*).

Places at the remaining four Schools this year have now been filled and MANWEB staff selected are as follows:

Messrs. R. F. Hanley (*senior clerical assistant, Mid-Cheshire*), A. Jones (*2nd assistant engineer, Dee Valley*), T. Smith (*meter mechanic, Liverpool*) and J. Wilshaw (*storekeeper, Clwyd*), who will be at the Van Mildert College, Durham from June 28th to July 6th.

Messrs. C. Bratt (*chargehand electrician, North Wirral*), N. Davenport (*3rd assistant engineer, Mid-Cheshire*), B. H. Kaye (*shop supervisor, North Mersey*) and G. Roughley (*meter reader, Liverpool*), who will be at St. John's College, Oxford from July 19th to 27th.

### WANTED

A second-hand Table Tennis table, in reasonable condition is required by our Gwynedd Sports and Social Club.

If any of our other sports clubs—or any individual—can help out, then please get in touch with Mr. G. Alan Snape at the Gwynedd District Office, St. Helens Road, Caernarvon. (Tel. G.P.O. Caernarvon 4166. Internal 251).

Messrs. W. H. Bell (*electrician, North Wirral*), S. J. Evans (*installation engineer, Aberystwyth*), E. Richardson (*senior sales instructor, Head Office*) and L. Ridgeway (*meter reader/collector, Dee Valley*), who will attend at Queen's College, Cambridge from September 5th to 13th.

Messrs. P. D. Hunt (*senior salesman, North Wirral*), P. D. Leadbetter (*electrician, North Wirral*) and A. E. Preston (*switchboard attendant, Oswestry*), who will be at Queen's College, Cambridge from September 13th to 21st.

All these men from MANWEB will have the opportunity of discussing the progress and the plans of the electricity supply industry and to exchange ideas and hear of new developments.

A typical school lasts for a week with the morning sessions consisting of a talk followed by a discussion and questions to the speaker. Afternoons are free and usually taken up with a range of visits to places of interest. In the evenings, further talks are arranged after dinner with the speakers prepared for questions from his audience.

The total cost of travel, accommodation and visits are met by the Electricity Board, and at the same time, normal payment is maintained for those selected, including bonus or lead-in payments (*where appropriate*) for NJIC staff. A daily allowance of 50p is also paid for the duration of the School.

## Good News for Pensioners

IN ORDER that pensioners should not be adversely affected by increases in the cost of living the Board have agreed to adopt the proposals made by the Electricity Council to review pensions annually, in line with public service pensions.

The review will be based on the cost of living at the 30th June each year and the rate of any increase will be determined by the Minister for the Civil Services, as soon as possible after that date. Providing this rate is at least 2%, pensions will be increased from the following 1st December.

The first increase will apply from 1st December, 1972 and will reflect the rise in the cost of living during the fifteen months from the 1st April, 1972 to 30th June, 1972. There will be a reducing scale of increases according to the date of commencement of the pension as follows:

1. *Pensions which began before 2nd April, 1971.*

2. *Pensions which began between 2nd April, 1971 and the 1st October, 1971.*

3. *Pensions which began between 2nd October, 1971 and 1st April, 1972.*

4. *Pensions which began between 2nd April, 1972 and 1st July, 1972.*

Thereafter the review will be in respect of the twelve months ending 20th June each year.

This scheme applies, generally, to pensioners (male or female) aged 55 years and over and to widows who have dependent children or who are over 40 years of age.

A further announcement will be made as soon as the Minister has made his determination.



## RETIREMENTS



At Mr. Covington's farewell ceremony at Sealand Road. In the front row, from left to right are Mr. H. Telfer, Mr. Stewart, Mrs. Covington, Mr. Covington, Mr. Cowan and Mr. W. N. Shires (*Deputy Chief Commercial Officer*).

### Mr. E. COVINGTON

"A man of great character, wisdom and integrity. We shall miss his company and the pleasure of his presence"—were some of the words of tribute paid by Mr. Roy Stewart (*Energy Sales Manager*) to Mr. Ernest Covington (*2nd assistant Commercial engineer*) on the occasion of his recent retirement.

Many of Mr. Covington's friends and colleagues gathered together to pay their respects to him and to his wife and wish them both many happy years of healthy retirement.

Mr. Stewart said that it was probably a coincidence that the General Strike took place shortly after Mr. Covington started work in 1926 with the Liverpool Corporation Electric Supply Department, but in that 46 years he had worked for the electricity supply industry, everything he had done had been in the interest of the industry and of the customer.

He had devoted a lifetime to matters electrical and from time to time had specialised in many fields. He was an excellent member of the staff, always willing to do what he was asked to do and always ready to pass on his expert knowledge of the job to his younger colleagues.

"Mr. Covington is an accepted authority on the heat reclaim system," continued Mr. Stewart, "and he is known in many parts of the world through his conducted tours of the Head Office building for the parties of overseas visitors."

Then Mr. H. Telfer (*Group Manager*) recalled the days when he was Manager of the former Area 1 and Mr. Covington worked in the Commercial Department. He said that he had found him to be a very relaxed man yet had a solid way of doing a job and doing it properly. He said that his relaxed

manner hid a very active mind.

Mr. Telfer then spoke of Mr. Covington's involvement in many electrical 'firsts' in the Liverpool area.

Finally, Mr. M. R. Cowan (*Chief Commercial Officer*) thanked Mr. Covington for his long and loyal service saying that his knowledge had been essential in the setting-up of the Head Office building and his experience had been invaluable.

He then made a presentation on behalf of the staff of a beautiful cut glass rose bowl.

Mr. Covington replied to the glowing tributes by saying that he didn't deserve all the nice things that had been said for he felt that he had only done his job to the best of his ability. He said that this was one of those occasions when he was speechless.

He quickly got back into form however and had one or two good stories of his experiences which he told in his own inimitable way, keeping his listeners interested.

He concluded by telling his friends that he was leaving with mixed feelings and would miss being part of a great organisation in a great industry. He said that though we might now be going through a lean period, we had great days ahead in this industry which served the community so well.

Many more stories of the old days and of more recent years were recounted at a dinner party when a number of his close friends and colleagues went along with their wives and enjoyed a great night out.

### Mr. S. WELSON

Members of our staff from the Oswestry and Newtown offices gathered together recently to say  
(continued on page 175)



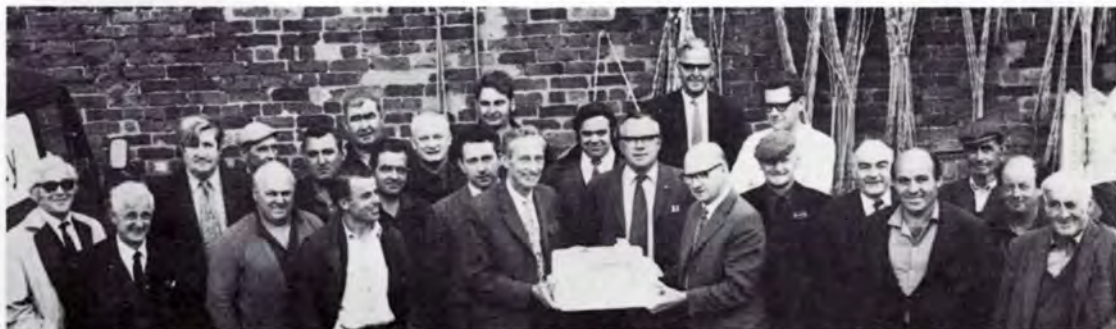


## ST. HELENS TRIO RETIRE

Staff at St. Helens gathered recently to wish happy retirements to three colleagues—Messrs. George John Atherton (*fitter's mate*), William James Fitzpatrick (*jointer's mate*) and John Foster Walker (*electrician's mate*). Our picture, *above*, shows Mr. J. R. Acklam (*system engineer*) right, with Messrs. Fitzpatrick and Atherton and their colleagues at Carlton Street, while, *below*, Mr. Walker (*the popular one with the ladies!*) receives his farewell gifts from Mr. Bill Royden (*shop supervisor*) at Bridge Street.







Colleagues from Oswestry and Newtown gather round to see Mr. Davies, centre right, present their parting gift to Mr. Welson.

their farewells to Mr. Sid Welson who was retiring from his job as 3rd assistant systems engineer based at Newtown.

Formerly on the staff of the Llanidloes Electricity Supply Company, Mr. Welson transferred to MANWEB in 1948 and was appointed as assistant section engineer.

In making the presentation of a parting gift from his many friends, Mr. Eric Davies (*District Engineer*) said that they all appreciated the companionship and service rendered by Sid.

Mr. Davies went on to express the feelings of all present that Mr. Welson would enjoy a long and happy retirement and, following a period of illness recently, they all hoped that his health would improve so that he could enjoy his well-earned rest.

#### Mr. R. J. SNOWDON

After 45 years' service in the electricity supply industry, Mr. R. Joseph Snowdon (*3rd assistant engineer—Technical*) retired recently.

He joined the Liverpool Corporation Electric Supply Department in 1927 and was soon serving his apprenticeship as an electrician. After qualifying he had a spell as a high tension inspector and later became an assistant telephone engineer.

In 1939, at the time of the Munich crisis, he had the responsibility for installing the air-raid warning sirens throughout the City of Liverpool. Then, for the next few years he looked after the maintenance of the siren circuits as well as the City's fire alarm circuits and the internal communications system.

Since then, he has always worked on the tele-

Mr. Snowdon, front right, receives a farewell handshake from Mr. Telfer after being presented with a stereo record player from his friends and colleagues.







Staff at Southport, joined by their former colleagues now at Marsh Lane, came together again to say their farewells to a couple of colleagues. In the centre of the picture is Mr. Hawley, who made the presentations, with Mr. Taylor (left) and Mr. Guppy (right).

communications systems, first with the Corporation and later with the Board, and his expert knowledge will be sadly missed by his colleagues in MANWEB.

"A very conscientious and helpful man," was how Mr. H. Telfer (*Group Manager*) described Mr. Snowdon at a farewell presentation ceremony held at Head Office, when a presentation of a stereo record player was made to Joe on behalf of his many friends.

#### SOUTHPORT RETIREMENTS

Two popular colleagues at Southport received farewell gifts from the hands of Mr. A. W. Hawley

(*District Engineer*) at a joint presentation ceremony at Southport recently.

Mr. Bill Taylor, a joiner, came to MANWEB on a temporary basis in 1950—and stayed as a welcome member of the staff for 22 years! A keen tennis player, he only gave up this strenuous hobby when he was nearing 60.

Mr. George Guppy, a painter, joined the Board in 1956, prior to which he worked for Southport Corporation. For many years Mr. Guppy played the saxophone in a local band.

Making the presentations on behalf of their many friends, Mr. Hawley wished Messrs. Taylor and Guppy long and happy retirements.

#### Mr. W. WILLIAMS

One of the Head Office team of photographers, Mr. Wallace Williams retired a few weeks ago after 46 years' service in the industry.

He was an electrician with the Chester Corporation in 1926, but it was not until shortly after we were nationalised in 1948 that he became a photographic assistant at the former Area Office in Chester.

His colleagues today described him as being a very helpful and willing man who had the reputation for a fast turnover of work.

Away from work, Mr. Williams has a wide range of interests, reading being high on the list.

Chief Draughtsman Mr. D. Hughes (*right*) presents Mr. Williams with his retirement gifts.

