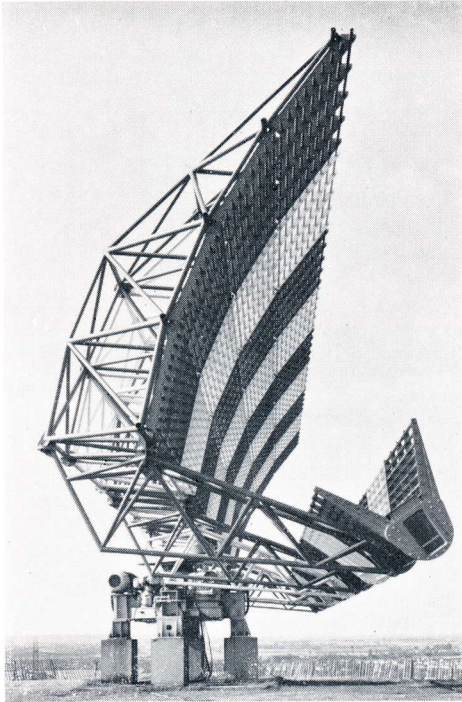


Echo

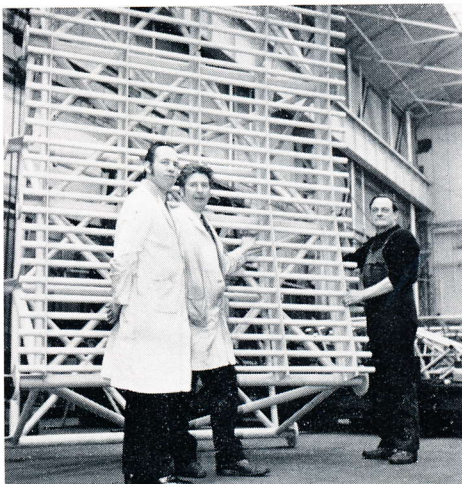
The internal newspaper of Marconi Radar Systems and its people

We are building a new Malaysian ATC system



The reflector for Subang on test at Bushy.

Below: The reflector was built at Gateshead Works. Here is one of the sections in the fabrication shop there with, left to right, Stan Roddam, Senior Foreman, Assembly; Sid Charlton, Inspector; and Glen Pratt, Slinger.



One of the contracts now being completed at Crompton Works is for the most powerful 50 cm radar station ever built for civil use.

The aerial system will be erected on a jungle hill-top twenty-seven miles as a crow would fly from Subang, Kuala Lumpur's new and very modern international airport.

Signals from the aerial will be processed on the aerial site and the radar picture will be passed by radio link to the air traffic control centre at the airport.

Gateshead and Chelmsford

The aerial which has nine segments in it—two more than those in use, for example, at London airport or Rivenhall—was built at Gateshead Works, has been tested at Bushy, and very shortly will be on its way to Malaysia.

The display and data handling equipment for the control centre is now on test at Cromptons and is being fed from the aerial at Rivenhall. All this, together with the transmitters, has been made in Chelmsford.

Very soon the installation team will be off to Subang and to that far-away jungle hill-top where GEC Malaysia are putting up the buildings on the spot where Dr. Murray Dalrymple and Ron Walter of MRSLS first climbed their survey tower made from trunks they felled themselves, peered out over the tree-tops at a hundred other hills and trusted in the accuracy of their navigation.

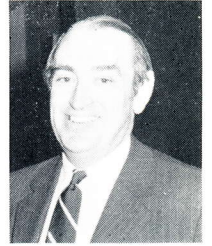
Despite the remoteness of the site a metalled road has now been cut through the jungle ready for the transport of equipment and the start of installation.

Gateshead team

Right: Here, also at Gateshead, is the pedestal which carries the neck structure of the reflector. It has been fabricated from burnt-out plates and rolled sections fully welded together. And here are some of the team who built it; left front: Eddie Short, Fitter; left to right: Sid Tailford, Apprentice Fitter; Ray Walsh, Welder; and Frank Symm, Fabrication Superintendent.



Prospects for our future business



Export orders

It is some time since I wrote about our business prospects in an editorial; I am pleased to tell you that a number of the big export orders we have been chasing have at last been awarded to us in the past few weeks and the order book is beginning to look healthy.

Provided that we can keep our prices attractive against the really fierce competition from the rest of the world, and at the same time generate sufficient revenue to continue the big programme of investment, both in the modernization and extension of plant and buildings and in the design and development of new equipment, we shall maintain our dominant position in the market.

Home

The continuing success of the *Seawolf* radars in their technical and operational trials, including quite a number of actual missile firings, has led to an initial production contract and the probability of substantial future manufacture, again provided that we can keep our prices competitive.

It is now up to our factories, and the ability of the manufacturing organization as a whole, working under the obvious difficulties of a 'heated economy', to produce the goods at the right price and on time. All our future depends on it!

Christmas greetings

I now have the pleasant opportunity to wish all members of Marconi Radar and their families a very happy Christmas and a successful and satisfying New Year.

JOHN SUTHERLAND,
Managing Director

News Flash

We now have a letter of intent from the Malaysian Government to purchase a second 50 cm radar for Air Traffic Control.

Power for the cuts — preparations



The new generator at Crompton Works installed by the Plant Engineers to supply power in an emergency. With it here are, left to right, Peter Clegg, Chargehand, Electrical/Mechanical Maintenance; Percy Wyatt, Maintenance Foreman; Cedric Dancer, Site Liaison Officer, Establishments Manager's Department; Rod Mackley, Establishments Manager; and Eddie Miller, Projects Co-ordinator, Plant Engineer's Department.

This equipment was obtained in liaison with Alf Lund and Barry Middleton of GEC-Marconi Power Engineering Department, New Street.

Power cuts without warning, no lights and tools suddenly dead and inoperative are problems we are faced with.

To meet them and keep the factory functioning in an emergency, Establishments Manager's and Plant Engineer's Departments went ahead, installed an emergency diesel generator and made major adjustments to the switching so that at least 500 kVA of power is available if trouble comes. This project was carried out in double quick time with engineers working through the weekends, and the installation was ready for use by the first week in November.

Power in short time

To avoid the irreparable damage which would be caused if the mains power supply were restored while our generator was running, and to prevent our meagre output from being fed into the national grid, a strict safety routine to isolate the site from the grid has to be followed in the event of a power cut, and this will give our site engineers a great deal to do in a very short time.

General economies have been applied throughout the site to enable heating and reasonable lighting requirements to be met.

On the air from Blackbird Road

The canteen at Blackbird Road, Leicester, recently took on a new role as a BBC studio when several recording sessions were held there for 'Top Firm', the general knowledge quiz programme organized by the Company in conjunction with Radio Leicester and broadcast in November and December.

Knock-out

The eight local firms taking part were competing on a knock-out basis before large and enthusiastic audiences for the Marconi Top Firm Trophy, specially donated by MRSL, Leicester.

After some close and exciting tussles, the winners were Cannon and Stokes Limited, a Leicester engineering firm, and the trophy was presented by Peter Way, Director and General Manager, MRSL, Leicester.

The MRSL team, Phil Downes, Eric Pratt, Richard Shelmerdine and Geoff Madder, won

their opening game but were narrowly defeated in the semi-final. However, they are looking forward to competing for the trophy again next year, and have gone into strict training.

Leicester lads help out

A number of apprentices at Leicester have recently been spending some of their time helping retired Company people who are ill or in difficulties. Fifteen of them have been digging and tidying gardens, painting and papering rooms and taking care of other tasks which many older people find it hard to undertake.

Regular help

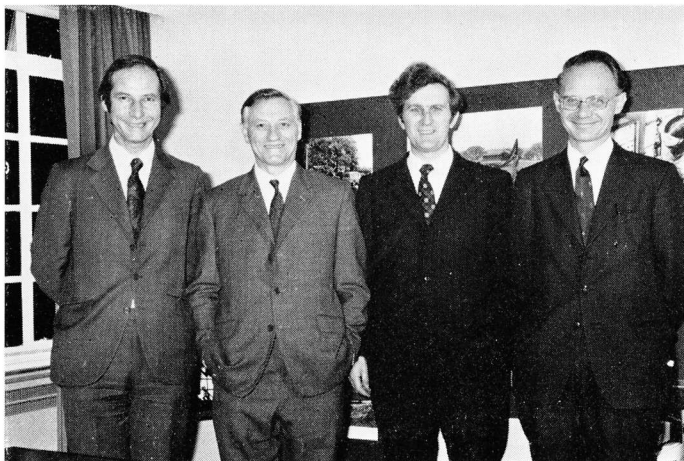
Originally arranged as part of Leicester's Marconi week, the operation is seen as a pilot scheme which could lead to this kind of help

being offered on a regular basis. Typical of the people who have been helped by the lads are a man and his wife who have to live and sleep downstairs because of the wife's ill health. New wallpaper which they bought



Leicester apprentices Malcolm Derbyshire and Paul Cropper help out with the decorating for a retired couple.

Management team responsible for services



In the last issue we showed pictures of the managers concerned with the line functions resulting from the new organization in Chelmsford. Here are managers responsible for service functions in the same structure. Left to right: Jeff Richardson, Chief Accountant; Alan Adams, Chief Accountant (Chelmsford); Terry Murphy, Personnel Manager (Chelmsford); Colin Anderson, Personnel Manager.

over two years ago for the front room was still untouched until the apprentices took over. They re-papered the room and attended to the paintwork at the same time.

Another lady, whose husband worked at Marconi and has since died, was worried about the state of her badly overgrown garden. Leicester's young men went to work with a will and transformed the garden within two or three days.

Another achievement

Paul Oliver, one of four technician apprentices at Chelmsford who have become student apprentices, received an award from the Chelmsford Engineering Society for an outstanding achievement by a local technical college student. He gained ONC with four distinctions. Now, in February, he begins a four year degree course in electrical engineering and electronics at Bradford University.

Materials and components for production

Vital services to maintain the flow of manufacture

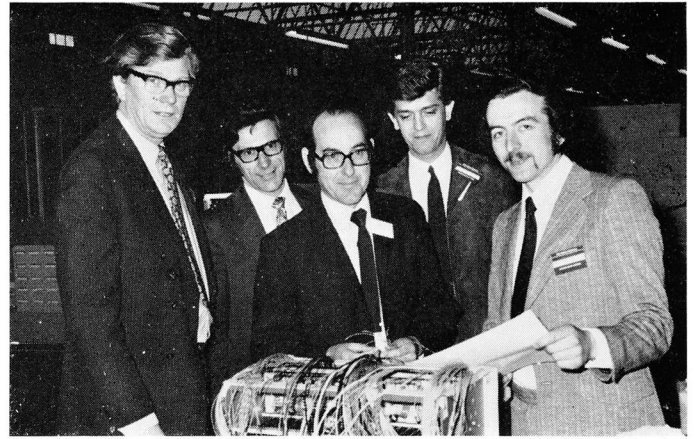
As soon as the drawing of a piece of equipment is made and passed to the Works for manufacture, the production team descend on it and initiate the action to be taken to obtain the materials and parts to make it.

The production team are responsible for the progress of manufacture. They break down the drawings of all items of a contract and schedule all the component parts with instructions as to whether they are to be manufactured, and if so what materials are necessary, whether they are in stock, or to be bought ready made.

Action by Supplies

At this stage the action passes, in particular, to one of the Assistant Purchasing Managers in Supplies Division responsible for buying the bits for production. This is Dick Brady: his

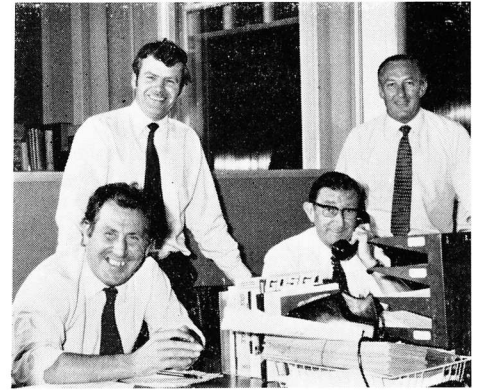
Right: *The Production Controller, Eric Fewell, left, with senior members of his staff; left to right, Charlie Carter, Derek Hammond, John Kipps and Dave Keable.*



Below right: *Dick Brady, Assistant Purchasing Manager, back, left, with, left to right, buyers Charles Hammond, Sid Downing and Doug Caie.*

teams, Buyers and Supplies Progress, supply all the scheduled materials and components required, and together they are constantly chasing to fill the hungry maw of the Works. Bought-out materials and components make up roughly half the cost of our products; therefore skill in buying economically can have an enormous effect on the final price of our systems and can help to keep us competitive in world markets.

The above is only one aspect of the Supplies Division, under Bryan Carey, which has been set up to make MRSL, Chelmsford, independent. We shall be looking at some of the other aspects in a later edition.



Right: *The Supplies Progress team; left to right, Charles Millard, Owen Jervis, and Frank Hinksman.*



Left: *The ladies who give clerical support. Left to right, Mo Clamp, Bibby Frost, Audrey Price, Annette Fantham, and Joyce Clifford.*



Carnival enterprise

The carnival team made their sparkling finale at the MASC during November the Fifth starlight celebrations. They had taken part in six carnivals during the season. At Southend they won first prize and the Thorby trophy for the most humorous entry, at Tiptree, first prize, and second at Chelmsford, Brentwood, Dunmow afternoon, and Dunmow evening torchlight. Here, left, is the whole team, left to right, John Reeve, Colin Hooper, Peter Parkhurst, Kris Davey, Reg Perry (above), Elaine McPhie, Olive Smith, Jill Spencer, Cheryl Warwick, Jenny Swift, Janice Smith, Charles Rand (above), Chris Boucher, Maurice Burrage, and Bill Raistrick. Bill has made a special case for trophies, now on view in D Building, which includes the tug-of-war won by the Works on Sports Day.



Bernard Sayers and Bill Wilsher of Works Estimating with one of the Great Horned owls. Bernard breeds many kinds of owls and has lately acquired a pair of Boo-book owls from the West Berlin Zoo, the first of these birds bred outside Australia.

breeding young birds for ultimate release in areas where they are most needed to save extinction. Bernard is convinced that the only way of saving the birds of prey is for specialists like himself to maintain a captive population until toxic chemicals sprayed on the land the world over are controlled and used with discrimination. He and other breeders maintain contact through British and International societies so that birds of as many different species as possible are bred to ensure survival.

Bird in the hand

Bernard Sayers and Bill Wilsher both work in Works Estimating at Cromptons. Both had a link with Jersey this summer. Bill was going on holiday there and Bernard wanted two owls.

In the picture Bernard has one in the hand and the other safely in a box. They are birds of rare distinction: a pair of Great Horned Owls of Canada, bred by the Jersey Wildlife Preservation Trust; and they flew home with Bill. 'I travelled in the same plane as they did,' says Bill, 'and Bernard was at London airport to meet us.'

Breeding

Now that they have settled comfortably in the aviary the next project will be breeding from them.

Bernard has been running an aviary for as long as sixteen years and had a number of different birds including a macaw and a toucan, but now he has only owls: twenty-five pairs. And he is devoting all his spare time to

Centenary display

Two miniature Marconi Radar Systems exhibitions are making a tour of various libraries throughout Leicestershire over the next few months.

Organized in conjunction with Leicestershire County Library, the exhibitions celebrate the centenary in April 1974 of the birth of Guglielmo Marconi. Both display items of historical interest and also show some of the present-day activities of the Company, but the one which will visit the larger libraries is also accompanied by a display of instruments and apparatus dating back to the time of Marconi himself.

Books relating to Marconi the man, the Marconi Company and electronics generally are provided by the library at each exhibition, and Marconi Radar Systems literature is also available to the public.

New talent

Left: Student and technician apprentices who completed their training and joined the staff during 1973 with, top, Alan Stevens, Senior Training Officer. Left to bottom, D. W. Taylor, Technician; J. S. Barron, Technician; B. V. Marjoram, Technician; upper centre, G. Randall, Student; and below, G. R. Merriday, Technician. Right, G. J. Ordish, Student; P. G. West, Technician; and E. J. Eagles, Technician.

Below left: Draughtsmen apprentices who also completed training in 1973 and transferred to staff with, second from right, top, A. C. Alchin, Training Officer. Left to right, top, D. J. Richards, D. R. Kirkby, N. P. Wailes, C. E. Stock; centre, P. S. Page, B. L. Woodham, R. A. Bewers; front, A. L. White, J. F. Daines, K. H. Johnson.

Fire wardens learn technique

Some of the Crompton fire wardens getting the 'gen' on extinguishers from Ken Gamblin, Safety Officer, front, before trying their hand at 'firing' them off. Left to right, Mrs. M. Clamp, M. Wilkins, Mrs. A. Turner, D. Lloyd, H. Jowers, J. Oliver, Mrs. S. Allen, S. Matthews, C. Ives and C. Stratton.

Xmas or Christmas

It is nearly Christmas already, and it doesn't seem any time since the summer holidays. There has been a rush with the presents—we are trying to cut down this year, who isn't—but we mustn't forget to go early for the drink and the turkey. At times we begin to wonder whether it is worth all the bother.

Perhaps this is not your reaction to the festivities. The trouble is, with all the parties, the extra work—and the fun—we forget that there is a difference between Xmas and Christmas. Not only has the word itself been abbreviated but Christ has been squeezed out. We celebrate his birth in a vague kind of way, and have no time to consider the reason behind it. The world seems to be in such a mess that we fail to hear his message.

The baby Jesus grew to be a man, lived a perfect life, and died a cruel death. He made it possible for us to know God's forgiveness, and to experience a real peace of mind in spite of external circumstances. The Jesus of Bethlehem and Calvary is alive and able to help us all today.

If Christ is the centre of Christmas, then it will be a truly happy one.

J. LANCASTER, Chairman,
Cromptons Christian Fellowship

Car draw

Below: Kitty Bluett of MRSL Field Services, left centre, won the second prize, the colour television set, in the MASC car draw. G. W. 'Bill' Green of MIMC workshops, Westway, right centre, won the car. Here they are with Jack Bigden, left, MASC Entertainment Officer, and Gerry Wignall, Club Manager.

