

SEPTEMBER 1978

**Marconi
Radar**

ECHO

The internal newspaper of Marconi Radar Systems and its people

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MARTELLO AT FARNBOROUGH

MARTELLO, our new long-range three dimensional radar, was unveiled at Farnborough International 78.

Described as a new concept in 3-D radar, Martello will be in production by 1980 and is designed to provide complete air defence coverage throughout the 1980's and 1990's.

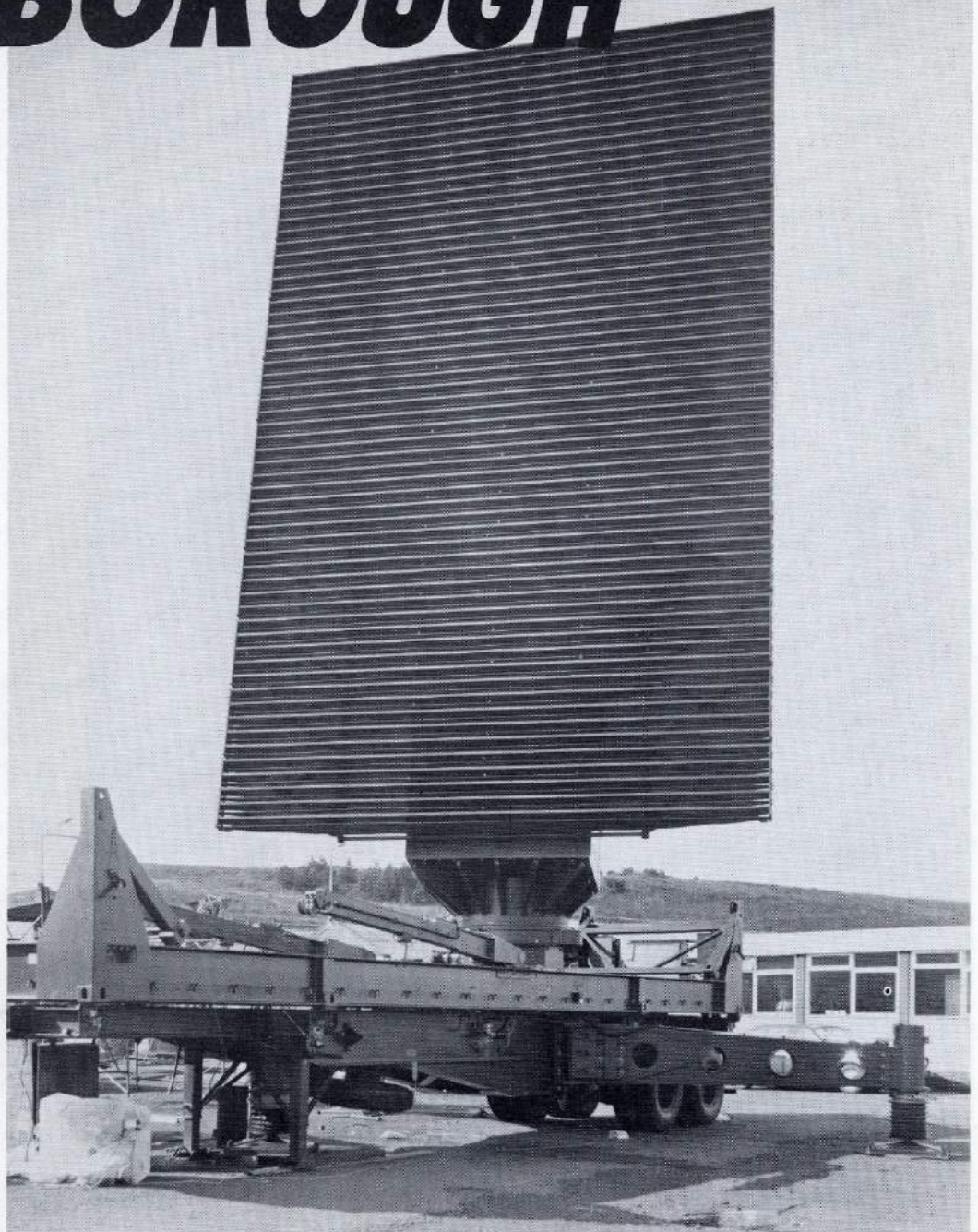
Martello is a mobile L-band long-range radar which fully satisfies the major requirements of an advanced modern radar system — high resistance to jamming and interference, coupled with excellent range and bearing discrimination.

Essential

In a mobile military radar, rapid deployment is another important essential. The complete Martello system can be deployed and be fully operational within six hours.

Managing Director John Sutherland says: "Martello is the culmination of many years of experience of development in the field of Air Defence. A significant technological breakthrough has led us to the realisation of a new surveillance radar geared to the military threat which can be expected over the next 15 years or so.

"Martello has a vast potential market over this period. We have devoted very considerable private venture investment to the project and are well satisfied with the result"



SPOTLIGHT ON STOUGHTON - see centre pages

RELATIONS IN INDUSTRY

appointments

THE Managing Director has issued the following notice:



MR. G. J. MORTIBOY is appointed Company Manpower Resources Manager responsible to the Director of Personnel with effect from 1st September, 1978. Mr. Mortiboy, who will be located at Chelmsford, will advise all MRSL management on recruitment, training and management development.

research and development, and training the new generation, there should be no need for thoughtless industrial action; if normal channels of communication and negotiation need improvement, then this surely can be done by sensibly sitting round a table, and not by action actually calculated to damage the enterprise by which all its employees gain their livelihood.

capital investment has been low and employment declining. But to see the practice spreading to healthy industries with a great future is disheartening not only to professional managers but many well-meaning people at all levels in those industries. Far from creating a better environment and conditions, it is inhibiting output, and therefore slowing down revenue, and sapping the very means by which employment can be improved in every way. Precipitate and selfish action can only damage everyone in an enterprise as a whole, both short and long-term.

In companies in high technology markets, making big investments in plant and facilities,

JOHN SUTHERLAND,
Managing Director.

I am taking the opportunity in this editorial to set down my personal views on the vexed subject of industrial relations.

The Company's concern, and my own concern, is for the well-being of all the members of the Company, for the total workforce, but not for one particular group at the expense of another. Looking at the industrial relationship scene in general, what is deplorable across major parts of British industry today is the way in which small groups of people will seek to damage the unit in which they work (be it private company, publically owned establishment or Local Government) for apparently the most trivial of reasons.

This might perhaps be understandable if not excusable in formerly labour intensive industries, such as the docks where



MR. F. C. PARKIN is appointed Personnel Manager, MRSL Leicester and Watford, with effect from 1st August 1978.

FIRE CONTROL AT ALDERSHOT

CONSIDERABLE interest was shown in a Centurion battle tank equipped with a Marconi SFCS 600 fire control system which was the highlight of the Company's display at this year's British Army Equipment Exhibition at Aldershot.

The tank, which has recently completed highly successful firing trials, was also fitted with the well-tried GCE 581 gun control and stabilisation system. In the trials, the Centurion repeatedly scored direct hits on a variety of stationary and moving targets and was successful in hitting targets while on the move.

To enable visitors to obtain a closer view of the fire control and gun control equipment a life-size cutaway model of a battle tank was also shown on the Company's stand.

Our picture shows the SFCS 600 control panel being demonstrated inside the Centurion at Aldershot.



Andy King (standing, second from right), of Future Systems Department, guides a visitor in playing 'Mastermind' on a Digilux touch-masked radar screen.



Steve Stewart (right) shows visitors a 23-inch display in the Pre-Commission Test Area.

OPEN HOUSE AT WRITTLE ROAD



ABOVE: Francis Holloway, Clerical Training Officer (left), talks to visitors. Sandra Francis (right) also works in the Training Department.

RIGHT: The S264 radar model in the Training Department attracted a lot of attention.

Below right: The capstan machine demonstrated by M. G. Graves (right) fascinated both young and old alike.



BELOW: Jack Mayhew, Security Supervisor (left), and Sid Farmer directing visitors on arrival.



Sir Robert Telford

AS WE announced in the Stop Press column of our last issue, Robert Telford, CBE, MA (Cantab), F.Eng., F.IEE., FI Prod.E., FBIM., FRSA., Managing Director of GEC-Marconi Electronics, has been knighted in the Queen's Birthday Honours List for his services to export.

Sir Robert was born in Liverpool in 1915. He was educated at Quarry Bank High School, Liverpool, Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School, Tamworth, and Christ's College, Cambridge (1934-37).

He joined Marconi's as a trainee in 1937. At the end of his two year apprenticeship, much of which was spent on the shop-floor, he became Assistant to the Works Manager in Chelmsford. From 1940-46 he was Manager of Marconi's Hackbridge Works, responsible amongst other equipments, for the production of the well-known T1154/R1155 transmitter/receivers for the R.A.F. At the end of the war he became Managing Director of Marconi's Brazilian Company, a post he held for four years, returning to England in 1950 when he was appointed Assistant to the General Manager.

In 1953 he became General Works Manager responsible for all Marconi Factories. Five years later he was appointed General Manager, a position he held for seven years until becoming Managing Director of The Marconi Company in 1965 and a Director of English Electric in 1968.

Following the mergers of various companies Sir Robert became Managing Director of GEC-Marconi Electronics Limited, the company which manages the electronics interests of The General Electric Company. He became a Director of GEC in 1973 and, among other companies, he is also a director of the Canadian Marconi Company and Svenska Radio (which is now known as SRA Communications AB).

Under Sir Robert's guidance, the GEC-Marconi Electronics group's overseas sales have gone from some £18 million in 1968 to a massive total of over £230 million, and, since 1966, the Group has been awarded 19 Queen's Awards of which 11 were for Export.

Among his many extramural activities he has been a Group Chairman of the Duke of Edinburgh's Conference on Human Problems



Sir Robert Telford

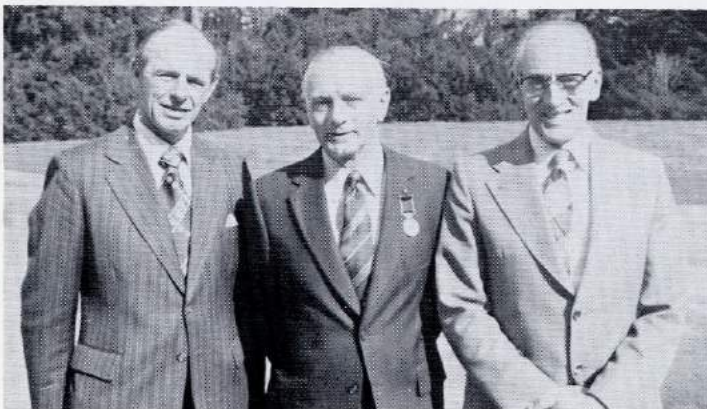
in Industrial Communities. He is a past Chairman of the Electronic Engineering Association and he is a member of the Engineering Industry Training Board.

Sir Robert is married and lives in Rettendon, near Chelmsford.

Admiral at Writtle Road

ADMIRAL Sir Richard Clayton, KCB, the Controller of the Navy, recently visited Writtle Road and was guided on a tour of the works.

The Admiral is seen here with Managing Director John Sutherland (right) and Marketing Director Peter Way.



Shirley's B.E.M.

Shirley Brewin, a specialist craftsman at Blackbird Road who was awarded the British Empire Medal in this year's New Year's Honours List, was recently presented with his medal by the Lord Lieutenant of Leicestershire, Colonel R. A. St. G. Martin.

Shirley is seen here (centre) after the investiture at Swithland Hall. He was accompanied at the ceremony by Works Manager Owen Jones (right) and Manufacturing Manager Stan Heath.

Contributions

COPY date for the next issue of 'Echo' is October 20, but please send in your news items, photographs and suggestions as soon as possible. Your contact is W. A. Smith, MRSL, New Parks, Leicester. Tel (0533) 871331. Ext. 313 Int. 577. Or material may be handed to Christine Merrill, Assistant Publicity Officer, at Writtle Road.



Tom wins a car he forgot about

SOMEONE'phoned Tom Smith, Contoller (Admin) Field Services at Writtle Road, and told him he had won a car in a competition he had forgotten he ever entered.

"I happened to do this competition in the Daily Mail while I was staying at my son's home at Christmas," said Tom. "Then I forgot all about it. I couldn't

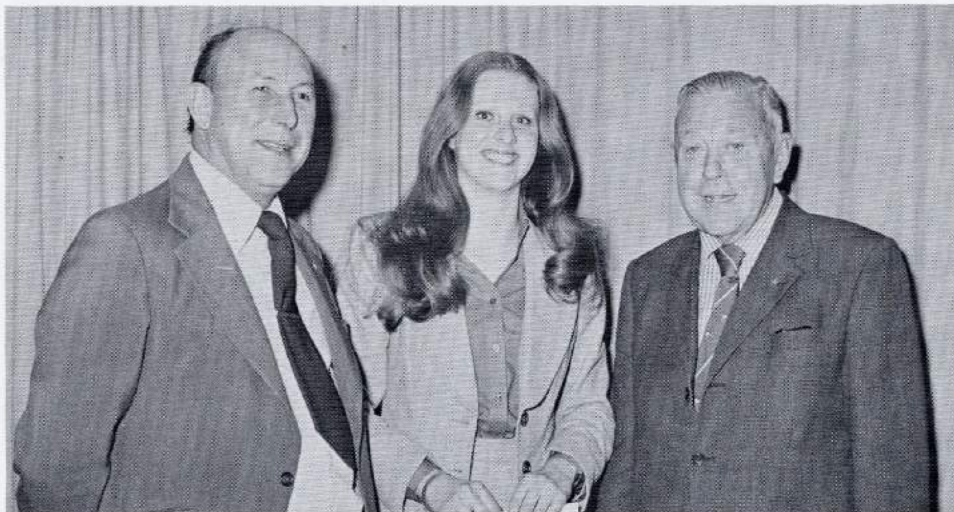
believe it at first when the call came to say I had won."

Tom recently collected his new gold-coloured Ford Escort GL1300 from a garage at Witham.

"I shall be retiring in about three years time so I was already looking for something a bit smaller than the car I have," added Tom. "The Escort is ideal."

Julian's farewell

A PRESENTATION of a brief-case was made by Ken Smith, GWS25 Project Manager (far right) to Julian Scott of GWS25 P.P.M.G. on the occasion of Julian leaving the Company to take up a new position with the Ford Motor Company. The best wishes of his colleagues in GWS25 P.P.M.G. go with him.



Letter of thanks ...

Dear Friends,

We would like to express our sincere gratitude for all the beautiful floral tributes, letters, messages of sympathy and donations to charity on the loss of our daughter who passed away on 23rd June.

It has been a great comfort to us to have so many wonderful friends throughout the Company to share our grief, and we shall always be grateful for their kindness in our time of sorrow.

Sincerely,

Ted, Brenda & Stephen Francis.

(MRSL, Engineering Division, Baddow)

Secretary Jenny wins her award

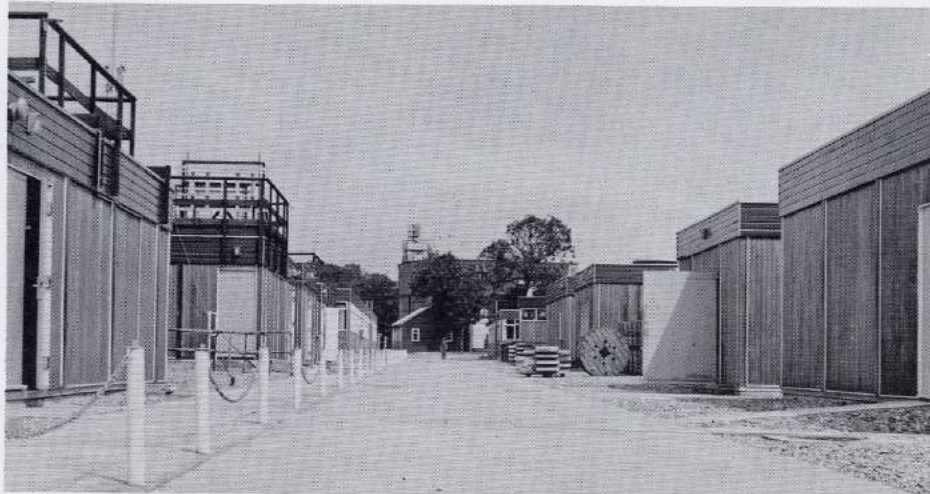
JENNIFER Joyce, a trainee shorthand typist, was recently presented with an award for the Secretarial Studies 1976/77 session from Chelmsford College of Further Education. Jennifer is seen here receiving her award from Mr. J. A. Pollard, a member of the College's governing body (right), and Mr. L. C. Hitchins, principal of the College.



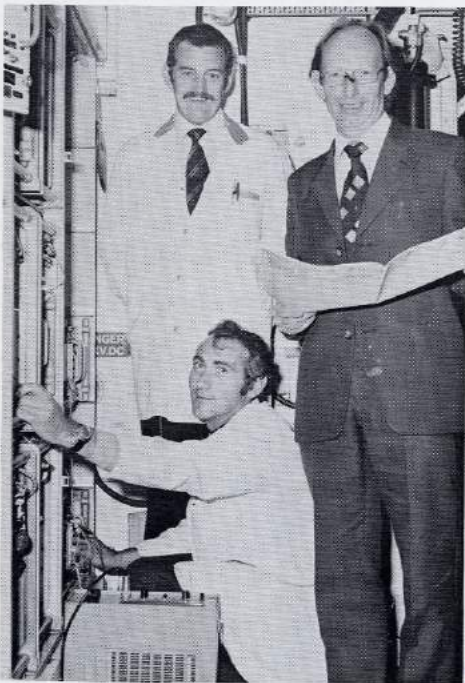
Keep on trackin'!

THIS happy picture shows Kate Allen, who was born in February, making a determined effort to follow the injunction on her Marconi Radar T-shirt. Kate's father is Personnel Director Hugh Allen.

SPOTLIGHT ON

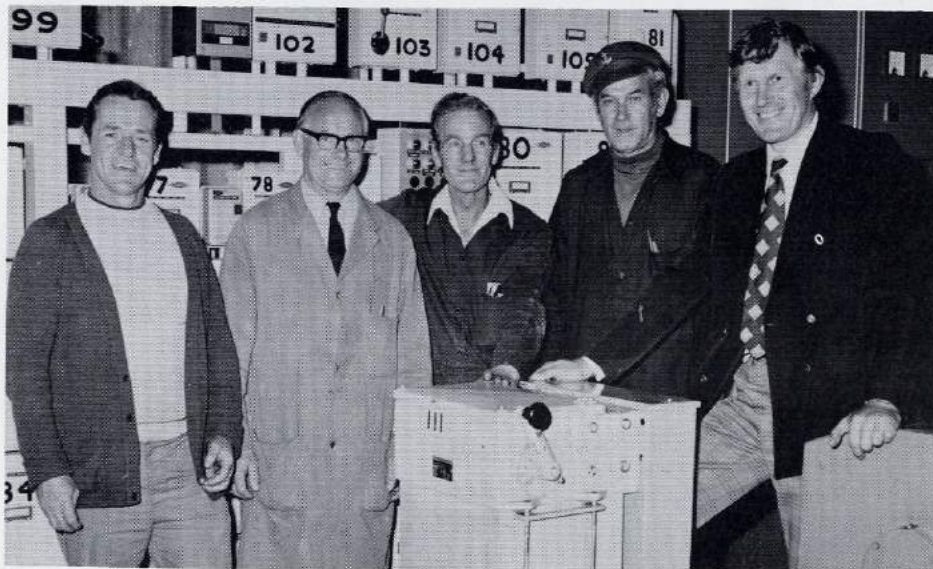


Above: Part of the Stoughton Test Site.



Left: In the 909 test area. (Standing, left to right) Brian Spicer and Ray Critchley; (kneeling) Dave Hobby. Ray is the Test Engineer on 909 radar at Stoughton.

Below: Smiling happily for the photographer are Canteen Assistants Rita Knight (left) and Doris Robinson. Doris would you believe? - is Rita's mother.



Peter Robinson (far right), Site Administration Manager, with site maintenance staff (left to right) Bob McIntosh, Cliff Barber, Joe Chesney and Jack Sharpe.

WE CONCLUDE our series of articles on the Company's outlying locations by turning the spotlight in this issue on to our Stoughton Test Site.

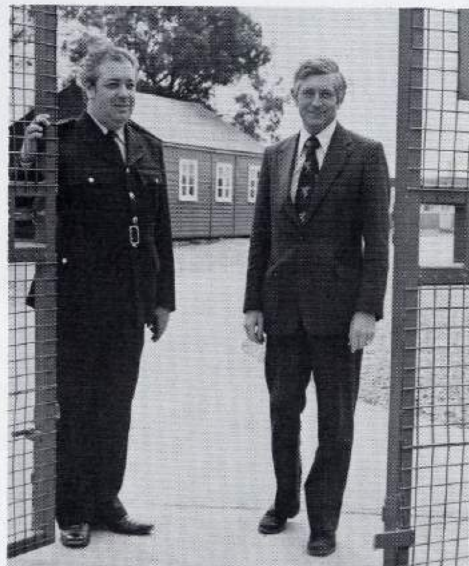
This three-acre site is situated some 450 feet above sea level near the village of Stoughton, a few miles from Leicester. It is, in fact, part of Leicester East Airfield — the headquarters of Leicestershire Aero Club — which was used by the R.A.F. during the last war. The Company took over at Stoughton in 1960, having previously used a test site in Anstey Lane at Leicester.

Accurate

Field tests for overall performance of radar equipment are carried out at the site, which has some 1200 square yards of covered space. Three towers are used for accurate antenna alignment, and trials with balloons and aircraft can also be undertaken.

Site Manager Peter Robinson looks after day-to-day administration, and Peter Lewis, Assistant Manager, Field Services, is responsible for the site on behalf of Support Division.

Charlie Capon is Systems Manager for GWS25 on the site; Ray Critchley, with a team from Blackbird Road, is Test Engineer for 909; Tony Gill is responsible for the 909 Production Reference Model; and Eric Downs, of Contracts Department, for Type 85 equipment.

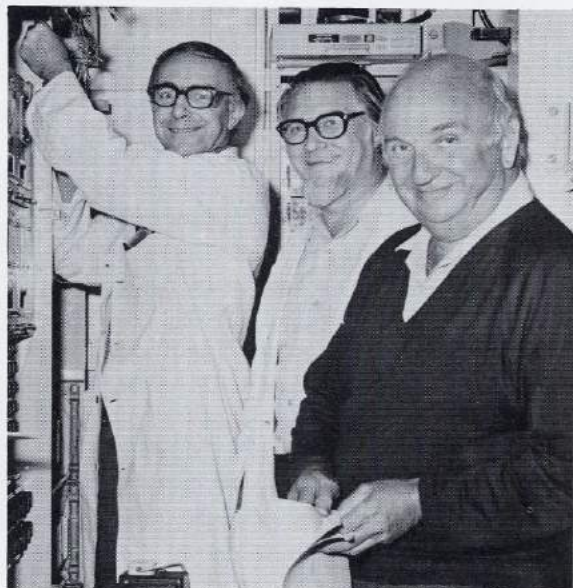


Patrolman Ivan Batt opens the gate for Eddie Thomson, Contracts Officer.

STOUGHTON



Peter Lewis (far left) with the 909 production reference model team (left to right) Cliff Wright, Neil Crumpton, Tony Gill, Tony Latham and Steve Chamberlain. Tony is the Field Services Engineer looking after the production reference model.



(Left to Right): 909 testers Ray Ludford, Shirley Upton and George Logan. George says he has been associated with test sites for more years than he cares to remember.



Above: Working on Type 85 are (left to right) Don Firth, Bill Young, Keith Panter and Vic Atkins. Eric Downs, 85 Site Engineer, was on holiday when the picture was taken.



Left: The GWS25 Field Services test team. (Standing, left to right) Terry Barnsley, Ray Mihner, Fred Young, Ted Friday, Dave Harrison, Keith Ollis, Wally Anderson, Nick Brunson, and John Derrick. (Sitting) Peter Lewis, Emma Bettell, Derick Slaney and John Legood. Charlie Capon, the team manager, was away on holiday when the photograph was taken. Keith Ollis is the resident MOD(N) A.S.W.E. representative.

SAILS SUCCESS

"A TREMENDOUS success" was Bruce Long's verdict on the performance of his Marconi Radar sponsored boat at the 18ft skiff open world championships

at Plymouth. As we reported in our last issue, Bruce — a Section Leader in D.O. Services, T.I.D., at Writtle Road — built the boat by himself with a little help from

Company apprentices.

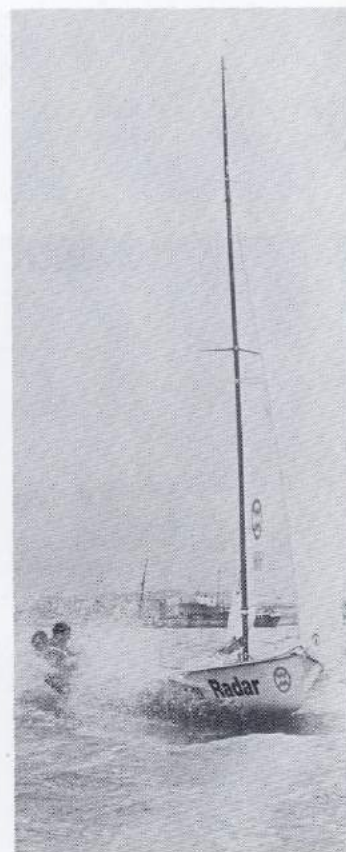
The Marconi Radar boat took part in five main races and acquitted itself well among some tough opposition from the experienced Australians, New Zealanders and other overseas competitors.

"The boat proved to be quick and we fared better than we thought", said Bruce. "We had the best performance of all the British boats and so we can call ourselves the British National Champions. Most of all, though, we gained a lot of experience in gear-handling and this augurs well for the future"

Highlight

A race sponsored by the Company on "Marconi Radar Day" was won by a New Zealand skiff. Sue Thorn (Miss Marconi Radar) and Bruce presented prizes to the winning team.

A highlight of the championships was a half-hour documentary, filmed by BBC-TV and shown on television in the Plymouth area, in which the Company's boat (and name) featured prominently.



The Marconi Radar boat in action at Plymouth.



Back row (left to right): Bruce Long (GB), Simon Ellis (NZ), Bob Fawkes (GB) and David Elphinstone (NZ). Front row: Russell Bowler (NZ), Sue Thorn (Miss Marconi Radar) and John Lorimer (NZ). The New Zealand team won the Marconi Radar prize in their skiff "Brownbuilt"

Reg Theobald

REG Theobald, Chief of Package Designs, MCSL, would like through these columns to thank all his Radar Company associates for their kind wishes and contributions towards his retirement gifts. He also wishes to say farewell to any of his associates whom he did not have the opportunity to see prior to his retirement.

(Mr. Theobald had served 51 years with his company. — Ed.)



Happy couple!

CONGRATULATIONS to Geoff Mowbray, Drawing Office Manager at New Parks, and Monica Russell, his secretary for the last six years, who were married at St. Theresa's, Birstall, on June 22.

Our picture shows Monica and Geoff (right) being presented with a set of leather luggage by Colin Latham, Development Manager, New Parks, on behalf of their colleagues. Monica, who has left the company after 24 years to be a full-time housewife, also received a gold bracelet from her colleagues.



David calls it a day!

David Patterson, a well-known figure in Administration (now called Establishments) at New Parks, has retired after 44 years' service with the Company.

David joined the B.T.H. Company at Rugby in 1934 as an apprentice. After working in the Research Laboratory at Rugby as an engineer and later with I.R. Engineers, he transferred to Technical Services, Blackbird Road, as a Section Engineer early in 1969. Later that year he moved to Administration at New Parks, where he remained until his retirement.

David is seen here (centre) with some of his colleagues after being presented with farewell gifts by Colin Latham, Development Manager, New Parks.

Golfing news

THIS year's Inter-Site Golf Championship was held on the long and tricky Western Park Golf Club course, Leicester, on Friday the 4th of August.

Due to holidays being taken, Gateshead were unable to field a team. The competition, which was fought out between Leicester the holders and Chelmsford, was a four player contest playing four ball better ball Stapleford.

Leicester 'A' retained the trophy with 74 points. Leicester 'C' were second with 68 points and Chelmsford 'A' third with 67 points.

The event, which was a re-sounding success, was followed by an excellent dinner at which the Chelmsford Captain, Max Stothard, thanked the hosts for their splendid hospitality, which was replied to by the Leicester Captain.

Likely Lads

The pace is hotting up for Gerry Halpin and Johnny Johnson, the two Chelmsford Golfers who, as holders, are again competing in the R.A.F. Golfing Society's Sassoon Cups Foursomes, to be held this year at Sunningdale on Thursday 21st September.



Surrounded by the Chelmsford and Leicester teams, Owen Jones (centre, left), Works Manager, Blackbird Road, presents the inter-site golf championship trophy to Leicester captain Alan Warren.

Our two likely lads were just pipped into second place at the Stoke-by-Nayland Course Open Day event, accumulating 71 Stapleford points from the 18 Hole better ball and 18 Hole foursomes.



Company canoe

Largely due to the enthusiasm of Ron Rocket, Foreman, Model Shop, Blackbird Road, the Company at Leicester has agreed to sponsor a canoe for the 15th Leicester Scout Group. Ron, who is an Assistant Group Scout Leader, got the idea at a canoe rally in another part of the country when he noticed that two of the boats carried the names of different companies.

Success soon came for the

Marconi Radar boat, for at a recent Leicestershire Scouts Canoe Rally the venture scouts paddled it to victory in a long-distance race of seven-and-a-half miles. They also won the overall trophy at the rally. Other successes have been scored by the ranger guides.

Our picture shows the canoe in action on the River Thames at Lechlade.

Paul joins the elite



Congratulations to 18-year-old Paul Aspinall, who became the first person in Leicestershire to pass the Institute of Advanced Motorcyclists' test. Paul joined the local group and, by attending five lectures given in conjunction with the Leicester City Police, achieved the high standard of driving ability which was required in order to obtain the I.A.M. certificate.

The month of June is something to be remembered for Paul, for he also passed the D. of E. car test.

Through Paul's success, we now have 12 other apprentices at Blackbird Road who hope to take their Institute of Advanced Motorcyclists test within the next few months!



● **Jan Cogdon**, Production Manager Electronics, recently left Gateshead Works to take up another position. He was presented with a squash racket by Works Manager **Bill Henderson**.



● **Mr. R. Vinton** retired recently following 16 years at Gateshead Works as a Time Clerk. Mr. Vinton was presented with a golfing trolley by **Mr. A. D. Williamson**, Personnel Manager, on behalf of friends and colleagues.

News from Gateshead



● **David McConkey** and **Christine Simpson** were married on 8th July. Both are employed in the Production Control Department at Gateshead. **Mr. E. R. B. Thornes** presented the couple with a clock on behalf of friends and colleagues.



● **Mr. C. R. Brownless** presenting **Mr. R. A. Brewes** with a pen and pencil set which he received from colleagues at Gateshead Works when he left to take up a position with another firm.

Works outing

● THE Gateshead annual summer outing took place in July, when about 200 employees and guests went by special train to Scarborough. The weather was ideal and the day was thoroughly enjoyed by all.

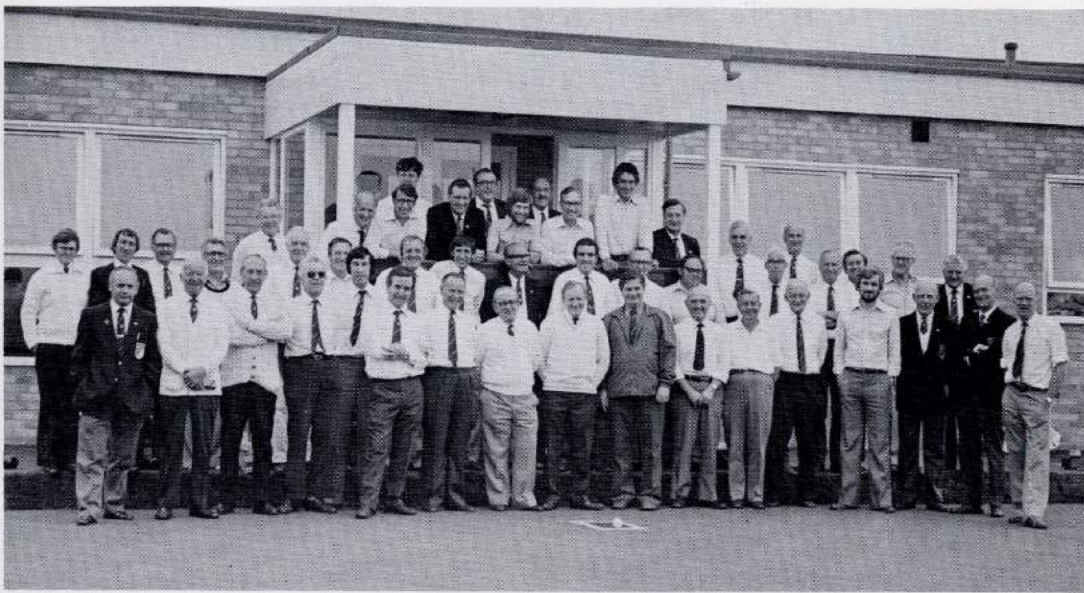
Camping club

● GATESHEAD Camping Club, which was formed last year, is now proving to be a very successful venture and a number of well-attended camps have been arranged to date.



● Twenty-eight retired personnel from Gateshead Works were taken on a bus outing accompanied by **Mrs. J. Stephenson** and **Miss K. Lambert**. The outing was to **Seahouses** on the coast of Northumbria, where they were served with tea before returning to Gateshead. The occasion was thoroughly enjoyed by all concerned.

New bowls pavilion opened



●Members of the Marconi Bowls Club gather proudly in front of their new pavilion.

SATURDAY July 15 1978 was a date that the Marconi Bowls Club members will remember with pride, for it was the day that their new pavilion was officially opened by very popular club president Sir Robert Telford.

Proceedings started at 2.40 p.m. with the Club Captain Arthur Spooner's team putting up the first woods in the annual battle versus the Club President's team. The game finished Club President 123 shots, Club Captain 124 shots, and provided the right appetiser for the grand opening that was to follow.

At 7 p.m. the doors were opened. Among the many members arriving were the specially invited guests — Sir Robert and Lady Telford, Junior President of Essex County Bowling Association Bob Skingsley and his lady, President of Chelmsford and District Bowling Association Ted Ball and his lady, Manager of MASC Gerry Wignall and his lady. Bouquets of flowers were presented to the ladies and also to the wife of club chairman Danny Branchflower.

Facilities

Later, in the packed lounge, Danny outlined the history of the project giving due regard to the many people who had worked hard for untold hours so that this first class building with its excellent facilities would become a reality. He then called upon Sir Robert, without whose help the whole venture may well have come to nought, to unveil a commemorative plaque and officially declare the Marconi Bowls Club Pavilion well and truly open.

Sir Robert, in his short speech, expressed every confidence in the future of the club and the members, then performed the opening ceremony to cheers and prolonged applause from the highly appreciative audience. Danny Branchflower, to mark the occasion, presented Sir Robert with an engraved tankard, and a special presentation was made to Jim Nicholls, our caretaker, on the occasion of his birthday.

The very successful entertainment was provided by the supreme funny man, comedian Chris Carlson, ably supported with music and songs by the group 'Blue Horizon'



●Susan Larter recently left our Production Control department and was presented with a charm bracelet by Mr. E. R. B. Thornes, Production Control Manager.



●Works Manager Bill Henderson, presents Mr. G. M. Gouldburn with a coffee percolator on the occasion of his retirement after 22 years service with the Company.



●Retiring after 10 years' service in the Production Services Department at Gateshead Works is Norman Porthouse who was presented with a cheque by Mr. R. E. Amos, Production Services Manager.

EchoSMILE



"This is the Wong number"

Guided to Victory

WITH a name like Divine Guidance, it is perhaps not surprising that this Marconi (Leicester) bowling team should find themselves at the top of the Handicap Section of the Major Oak Tenpin Bowling League. In spite of the strong competition they deservedly achieved the top position after outright victory in the last match of the season.

Only a few points behind came the other Marconi teams — the Lumberjacks and Peanuts. They finished in fourth and fifth place respectively in the 18-team league.

Leicester have had three teams in this league for the past three seasons and are confident of maintaining or even increasing this number in the future. The league bowls on Thursday evenings each week at 8.00 p.m. and transport to Nottingham is provided by Company mini-bus.

The Club is always interested in new talent (whether expert or novice) who are prepared to bowl on average at least once a fortnight. The winter league is due to start again in September and will continue until May. As Peter Mendenhall is retiring this summer after four seasons as Secretary of the Marconi (Leicester) Tenpin Bowling Association, anyone interested in joining should telephone either Malcolm Robinson (Treasurer) or Mike Gould (Chairman) on ext. 580 at New Parks.



● Some of the Marconi (Leicester) Tenpin Bowlers, pictured in their Marconi Radar T-shirts. Back row (left to right) Marilyn Blackwood, Malcolm Robinson (treasurer), Mike Gould (chairman), Alan Garner, Tim Moloney, Mike Clarke, George Eastaway, Chris Walton and Bob Packer. Front row: Peter Mendenhall (secretary) and Rosemary Jacques. Members not pictured here are John Moore, Helen Webb, Harry Moore, Maureen Webster, Terry Spriggs and Sid James.



New champions

AFTER becoming Division Two Champions in their first season in the Marconi Inter-departmental Darts League at Chelmsford, Radar Test have fulfilled their promise by going on to top Division One. They won the championship after yet another thrilling play-off against TV Test 'A' team.

Maximum

During the course of the season, two of the team members qualified for the elusive '180' award, presented to any player scoring a maximum during a league match. They were Dave Watts and Dave Bowerman.

Pictured (left to right) are D. Skingley, J. Harrington, R. Cummings, D. Watts and

D. Bowerman. Team members not shown here are P Willmore, G. Brewster and D. Buxton.



● The victorious BRL Machine Shop Inspection Skittle team. Back row (left to right): T. Barnett, D. Bennett, T. Iredale, P. Burgess, E. Gibbons. Front row: A. Bradley, R. Morris (Capt.), B. Lissaman, C. Cragg.

Leicester skittles

THE fourth inter-departmental skittle cup season ended with almost 100 Leicester employees of MRSLS and Elliott Process witnessing the team cup final and the concluding rounds of the individual K.O. event at Birstall Social Club. There was some good humoured banter being passed round when it was realised that in the single knockout, three of the four semi-finalists were committee members. As it transpired the odd man out became the eventual champion.

So the 1978 singles champion is Tony Benford, a Management Accountant with EPA, New Parks. He skittled so consistently

through all the rounds that his scalps included most of the accepted favourites, and he won the final with a resounding 4-6-8 to beat David Wood, another of the EPA Accounts stars who looks as though he will win the singles every year but has yet to do so.

Exciting

In the team event the two favourites eventually arrived in the final. They had been battling since early January and the two who made it were Blackbird Road Machine Shop Inspection and Blackbird Road Accounts. After quite a slow but exciting start the score was 1-1 when the Inspectors really woke up and finished the match off with two legs of 40 and 52, to win the match 3-1 and carry off the cup for the second consecutive year.

The prizes and trophies were presented by Owen Jones, Works Manager, Blackbird Road, who spoke for everybody in attendance when he said that it was a most enjoyable evening played in the very best spirit.

The thing that worries the committee most now is that if Machine Shop Inspection win again next year they could claim the cup as their own and give the committee the task of raising more funds for the purchase of another one!