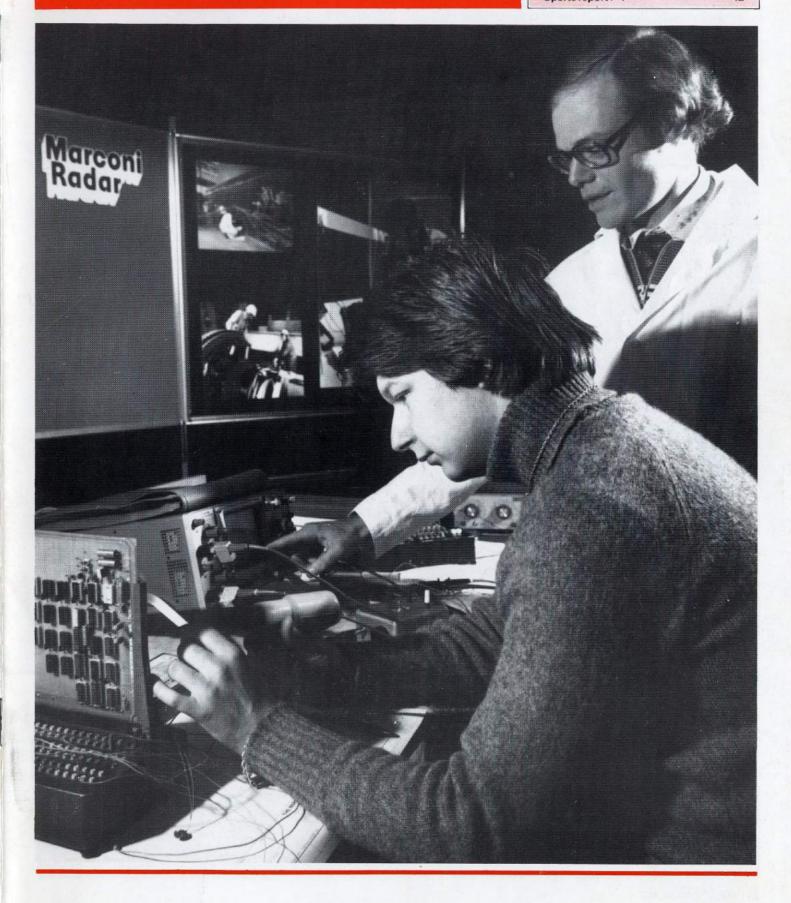
March 1980 Marconi E The internal newspaper of Marconi Radar Systems and its people

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Marconi Radar has expanded steadily over the years and this issue of ECHO devotes two pages to our newest establishment, Bosworth House in Leicester. But it is very easy to forget the Marconi Radar men who are working far away from home, in warships and in many foreign

I have visited Muscat and Oman recently and was able to talk to almost every one of our large team over there, involving hundreds of miles of travel to remote sites inside the country by jet and helicopter. We can be extraordinarily proud of the efforts they are making - the

sites are well kept, the equipment is well maintained, morale is good and Marconi's reputation is high with the Oman Government.

Since the very earliest years of this century, Marconi has been a world-wide company; it is reassuring to see that we have managed to maintain this position, but it becomes increasingly difficult with stiffening competition from overseas and we have a tough fight for export business ahead of us.

> JOHN SUTHERLAND Managing Director



Engineering

LEFT: John Gisby, training officer, captures the interest of three young visitors.

BELOW: These Chelmsford High School girls (budding technicians of the future?) were fascinated by the Marconi Radar game.

MARCONI Radar was well represented at 'Engineering '80' East Anglia's largest ever exhibition of training and career opportunities in the engineering industry. The Company's stand, which was erected and dismantled five times over a period of a few days, was designed by Publicity for the Training Department.

This was the fifth successive exhibition of its kind, extended this year to cover five centres in turn at Norwich, Ipswich, Colchester, Chelmsford and Basildon.

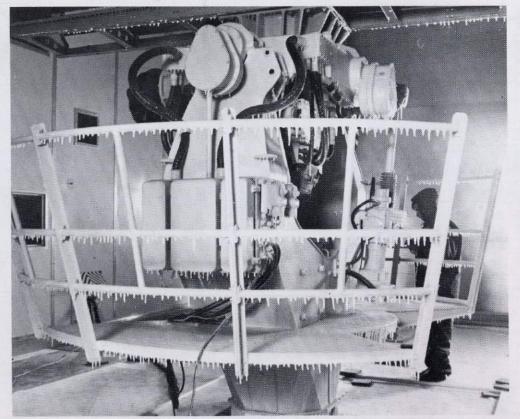
The aim of the exhibition is to encourage youngsters who are undecided as to what to do on leaving school to think about engineering as a career.

Each year Marconi Radar recruits approximately 250 young people to train for a wide variety of careers within the Company. These training places range from graduate apprenticeships to craft skills and secretarial training.



FRONT PAGE PICTURE

... shows student apprentice Jim Clarke (seated) building the 'Marconi Radar Game' under the supervision of engineer Mike Roberts. The game formed part of the Company's stand at the Engineering '80 exhibition and was a great success with the public. It called for the operator to react to a series of random letters of the alphabet flashing up on a display, by flicking a switch and spelling out the name 'Marconi Radar'.



THE climatic chamber at Writtle Road is normally used for weather-testing large mechanical and electronic assemblies such as this GWS25 surveillance antenna. In addition to being subjected to very low or very high temperatures, equipment can be exposed to driving rain, salt spray, extreme icing and infra red radiation. The atmosphere in the chamber can be changed once perminute, which allows extremely stable operating conditions to be maintained.

FREEZING FORDS

THE COMPANY has recently had the somewhat unusual task of assisting in the development of Ford Transit Vans.

The Truck Development Division of the Ford Motor Company has been using the Marconi Radar environmental test facilities in Chelmsford for 'cold start' testing of three Transits.

Each night, for nearly three months, the three vehicles have been driven into our climatic chamber, which is one of the largest in Europe. Then, after having been frozen down to—30 deg. C (or 54 degrees of frost in Fahrenheit terms) all night, they have had starting tests carried out on them by Ford engineers each morning.

Normally, of course, the climatic chamber is used for testing naval radar systems and can be used to heat them up to 105 deg. C as well as freeze them to —40 deg. C. Other facilities at the environmental evaluation centre include a 'shock' table for jolting up to eight tons of equipment and a vibration table for 'shaking' up to six tons of equipment.

Chelmsford awards

STAN Church, Manager, Spares and Repairs, is shown presenting awards to Bob Crick (left) and Denis Clements (right) of the Repair Section at Writtle Road.

The awards covered two suggestions made by Bob and Denis to overcome problems arising on the tangential fan unit, part of the GWS25 tracker. The suggestions resulted in recovery and modifications of the units to enable installations to continue pending the supply of modified fan units.



Field Services Team in Argentina

A TEAM has been in Argentina since May to install and set to work Radar Type 909 equipment aboard ARA St. Trinidad. Presently situated in Ensenada near Buenos Aires, the ship will shortly move south to carry out sea trials. Pictured here (left to right) are Chris Walker, John Bamford, Tony Gill, Tony Whitehouse, Jim Keenan, Neil Crumpton and Ged Loft.

Searchlight Museum

THE COMPANY recently presented a searchlight made at Blackbird Road for use on Chieftain battle tanks to the Leicester Museum of Technology.

After 13 years of manufacturing these light projector units, the contract requirements recently completed. Since the mid-1960's a total of 2354 searchlights have been made at the Leicester factory.

The presentation searchlight, one of the last to be made, was assembled by a team of company apprentices as part of their training. The museum will put the light to practical use by mounting it on a 10ft, tower and using it to illuminate part of their premises.

Our picture shows Owen Jones, Works Manager, Blackbird Road, on the ladder after making the presentation. Also shown (left to right) are, back row: Miss A. Twining (Assistant Curator), Mr. B. Bracegirdle (Curator), Mr. Mike Causer, Dave Conn and Mark Godden (graduates); middle row: Mr. P Boylan (County Director of Museums), Steve Lalyk, Phil Mawby (students), Steve Essam (graduate); foreground: John Scarrow (student), Steve Perry (E.P.1 Instructor), Anne Duerden (gra-



Faulty boards to satisfied customer'

THE ABOVE is a translation of one of the headlines in a recent edition of MIBLADET, the house journal of the MI Division of L. M. Ericsson in Sweden.

The "satisfied customer" referred to is Marconi Radar in Leicester, and a further translation (kindly provided by the Swedes) of the caption to their first picture should make it all clear. The translation reads as follows:

Believe it or not but these two gentlemen were actually here to check that we are really capable of making faults. This is no joke, Marconi had namely ordered a number of faulty circuit boards. They will be used for training in fault-finding. On the picture we see from left Mr. Paul Rowe and Mr. Bruce Neil in fault-finding action together with LME's Erik Tossavainen.

The faulty boards are in fact for the Maintainer Training Aid programme (800 series) for the Egyptian Navy.

The caption to the second picture, which is

headed "PEDER by car to Marconi", reads: The week after the "fault-finders" were over, an additional two visitors from Marconi arrived here. Now was the time to pick up a PEDER system and the set of faulty boards. And it was also urgent so Alison Campbell and John Parry came here by car to pick up the equipment. "It's an enjoyable way of doing it," said John Parry. In addition it is actually a quicker way to get the stuff home by car and Tor Line than to use airfreight.

The PEDER system is a co-operation project with Ericssons for use on 800 series equipments.





Members of the committee pictured here at one of their regular meetings are (standing, left to right) Roy Ransom, Chairman (MCSL), Henry Flack (MRSL), Roger Dorking (Baddow Workshop), Les King (MRSL), Malcolm Robinson (MCSL), Clive Butcher (W'house Lane), Bernard Hazelton (MIMCO). (Seated): Joan Gower (Winding Shop), Millie Knight (Winding Shop), Dennis Beesley, Vice-Chairman (MIMCO), Audrey Bevan (GEC-Marconi), and Bert Whitworth, Secretary/Treasurer.

CHELMSFORD CHARITIES COMMITTEE

The Marconi Employees Charities Fund committee is made up of representatives of employees from GEC-Marconi companies in Chelmsford. Its purpose is to receive the funds which are donated voluntarily by employees (by deductions from salary) and to decide on the best way of allocating this money to the various charities. Money is donated on a regular basis to about 50 local and national charities, and the funds are also used for special projects such as helping local hospitals to buy certain equipment.

Mayor calls in at Accrington

Nearly 12 months ago the greater availability of labour in the area prompted the Company to establish a new drawing office in Accrington. Situated on the top floor of one wing in the premises of GEC Engineering (Accrington) Ltd., about 18 new employees now work there under the overall supervision of Dick Woods, Manager, D.O., New Parks, Leicester.



Our picture, taken during a recent visit by the Mayor and Mayoress of Hyndburn District Council to the premises, shows (left to right): Mr. McCarthy (Works Manager, GEC Engineering), Pat Kelly (Chief Draughtsman, Admin, Leicester), Derek Thomas (Draughtsman in Charge), the Mayor and Mayoress, Dick Woods (Manager D.O., Leicester), and Jack Horman, Personnel Director, GEC Engineering.



Egyptians at Leicester

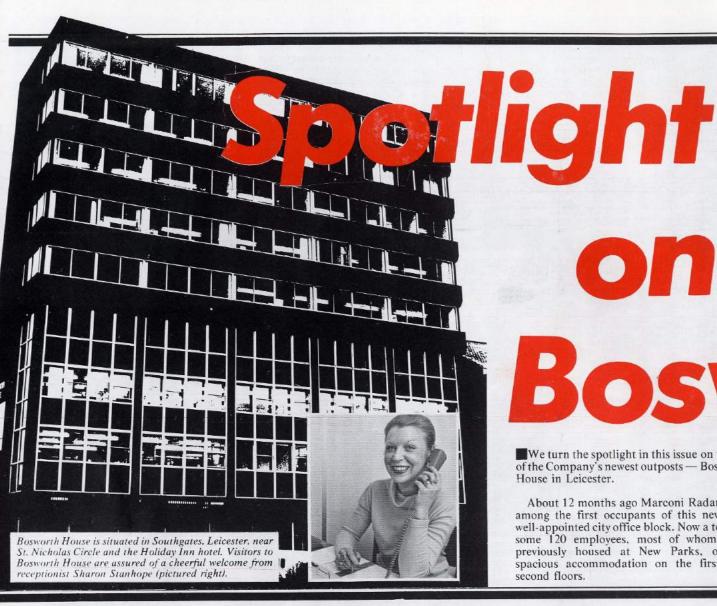
This group of Egyptian naval officers, accompanied here by Peter Jeffery, senior instructor (second from left), were obviously enjoying their course at Bosworth House, Leicester. The officers have now successfully completed a series of courses at Leicester and Chelmsford on a maintainer training aid being supplied to the Egyptian Navy.

Richard Worby leaves us

Roy Simons, Technical Director, is shown presenting Richard Worby (left) with a ship's decanter, with all the good wishes of his colleagues and friends on the occasion of his departure for Canada.

Richard was appointed Marketing Manager of Canadian Marconi Company's newlyformed Radar Division last year after completing 13 years of wide-ranging activities for MRSL (latterly in the naval market).





on BOSV

We turn the spotlight in this issue on to one of the Company's newest outposts - Bosworth House in Leicester.

About 12 months ago Marconi Radar were among the first occupants of this new and well-appointed city office block. Now a total of some 120 employees, most of whom were previously housed at New Parks, occupy spacious accommodation on the first and second floors.



Technical Information Services-(left to right): Joe Miller (Manager), John Wincot, Alison Poxon, Paul Rowe, Beryl Haynes, Adrian Skertchley, Mike Jenkins, Bill Aubrey, Alan Duffield, John Smith and Roy Newton.

Technical Information Services — (left to right): Frank Rogers, Dorothy Brivati, Peter Egan, George Jones, Christina Broughton, Clive Gosling, Rhoda Aubrey. Pat McConnell. Alison Poxon and John Twigg.



ABOVE CENTRE: Technical Services -(left to right): Peter Whalley, Peter Bond, Sheila Millicheap, Sheila Jackson, Jim Oliver, Andy Williams, Mick Conway, Ralph Wilson, Dave Brayshaw, Jim Bourne. (Seated): Coralyn Bancroft, Tom James. (Foreground): Manager Phil Thake.



(Seated): Keith B





Bob Spowart, Principal Instructor Field Services, with Sue Langley, secretary to Reg. Dean.

Reg Dean (standing, centre) Assistant
Manager Field Services and Administrator
Bosworth House, confers with (left) John Smith, Project Engineer, Jack Illingworth (seated), Tools and Test Equipment Engineer, and George Taylor, Project Engineer—all of Field Services Department.



vorth House

The Administrator at Bosworth House is Reg Dean, who is also Assistant Manager, Field Services Department Leicester. Other Departments established there are Technical Services Leicester under the Management of Phil Thake, Technical Information Services (T.I.S.) under Joe Miller, Support Contracts under Jim McClelland and Estimating under Ron Lilley. There is also an Apprentices Drawing Office where Paul Stevenson is the instructor.



es Laboratory — (left to right): Nigel Bristowe, Student ark and Stephen Underwood, Richard Shelmerdine, Bob

es Drawing Office (left to right): Terry Bilson, Albert O'Neil, oord, Duv Tara, Jack Pharo, Section Leader Cyril Phillimore.





Support Contracts—(left to right): Jeff Goodwin, John Browett, Dave Cope, Norman Cooper, Lee Matley. Josie English, Ruth Kirk, Jim McClelland (Manager), Paul Stretton and John Bennett.

Estimating Department — (left to right): Alan Richardson, Wally Coombs, Jeff Byrne, Sandra Haywood (seated), Dave Anderson, Richard Goss, Dave Bennett, Cliff Murch and Dave Stock.



Estimating Department — (left to right): Howard Craddock, Jeff Madder, Les Helyer, Andy Clayton, Cyril Pink, Rosylyn Findlay, John Patterson and Harold Wright.



Early retirements

Cyril Slade and Frederick Chittenden have known each other for over 40 years. They met as drawing office apprentices at Crompton and Parkinson in the mid-1930's.

During the war years they lost contact: Fred went to Australia with the RAF; Cyril worked in Welwyn Garden City for the Inter-Services Research Bureau.

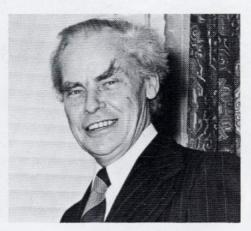
Their paths crossed briefly after the war, but in 1953 they found themselves working together again as draughtsmen in the Drawing office — this time for the Marconi Wireless Company.

Since then their paths in Mechanical Engineering have followed closely, both at Baddow and Writtle Road. Now they have both chosen to retire early to take advantage of the Government's Job Release Scheme.

Cyril, Mechanical Engineer, Standards Authority, is retiring 15 months early after 29 years' service. Fred, Section Chief, Mechanical Engineering, is retiring after 27 years, 2½ years before his official retirement.



The Job Release Scheme was introduced by the last Labour Government to help reduce unemployment. The scheme offers an allowance to men aged 62-64 and women aged 59 who are prepared to leave their jobs prior to their official retirement date in order to provide vacancies for people who are unemployed. In return the employer agrees to recruit a registered unemployed worker, although this does not necessarily have to be for the same job.



CYRIL SLADE



FREDERICK CHITTENDEN

Christian fellowship

There must be a sense of foreboding among many as we enter this new decade. The past one has seen unparalleled scientific wonders, many of which would have been hardly dreamt of ten years ago. Whilst it is good to enjoy the increased benefits that science has provided, no account has been taken of Man's moral sickness. All areas of society have ignored the words of Jesus, 'Man shall not live by bread alone.' Man partakes of the tree of knowledge without tasting of the tree of life.

Man has not solved the problem of lust, greed, hate and prejudice which produces social injustices, racial strife and war. No matter how advanced our progress, any generation that continues to neglect its spiritual and moral life will disintegrate. All God's plans and purposes are centred in Jesus Christ. The story of the Bible is of Man at variance with God, but it reveals a great future that will rise from the ruins of Man's aspirations.

On Monday, 31st March, we will be asking the question: 'Does the Bible Speak to us Today?' We meet at 12.35 p.m. in the Reception Room, 'D' Building. You are welcome then or on any other Monday. Ask Doug Jones (ext. 2959) for our 1980 programme, available now; it contains many subjects of topical interest.

Jon Ellis, Chairman, Christian Fellowship, Writtle Road

LONG SERVICE AWARDS AT CHELMSFORD

PICTURED RIGHT. BACK ROW: J. Wild (Manager), M. R. McArthur (Manager), P. R. Jefferies (27 years), A. Thorogood (Manager), H. Fancy (25), A. V. G. Martin (Manager), R. J. Scott (Director), E. J. O. Cole (27), D. W. Brown (25), R. Towell (Manager), E. Fewell (26), F Kime (Manager), A. H. Shelley (Manager), D. Bailes (27), E. Holman (Manager), P. A. Cottee (25), R. J. C. Bannister (Manager).

MIDDLE ROW: G. E. Firmin (26), D. Reed (25), D. G. Smee (Director), R. T. Baxter (25), B. T. Neale (Manager), M. T. Daniels (25), R. Chambers (25), G. Bryne (25), R. K. E. Brame (25).

FRONT ROW: A. T. Barwell (25), K. A. A. Jones (26), W. J. Warner (50), D. B Rice (25), G. Akerman (25), J. G. Reeve (25).





PICTURED LEFT. BACK ROW: E. W. Jeffrey (Manager, 25 years), T. E. Gaskell, M. R. McArthur (Manager), D. W. Taylor, W. H. Neave, C. Samms, R. B. Ricketts, J. W. Sutherland (Managing Director), R. Hefford, C. H. Lalonde, B. T. Neale (Manager), B. A. Stammers, D. J. Pegg, E. A. Hall, P. Williams (Manager), G. Wheeler (26), D. Candy (Manager), C. A. R. Mackley, R. J. O. Bannister (Manager).

FRONT ROW: N. J. Tingey, W. E. Wright, T. J. Monk, V. A. Mitchell (26), F. G. Givney, L. Peddie, M. Pomerov.

All 25 years except where otherwise stated.

Gateshead News



Hugh Allen, Director of Personnel, recently presented gold watches for long service to a number of Gateshead employees. Left to right in our picture are (standing): J. Orton, G. Dixon, F. Lloyd, F. Furness, D. Richardson, L. Cooper, J. A. P. Cox, L. Copley and K. Hawthorne; (seated): J. Nicholson, S. O. K. Jackson, W. I. M. Henderson (Works Manager), H. O. Allen, E. B. Rowe and R. Dunn.



Fred Mole was presented with a Black & Decker Workmate by Ozzie McClurry. Production Controller, on Fred's retirement after 23 years' service.



Bridget McKinney received a gold bracelet from Manufacturing Manager Roy Cantwell on her retirement after 22 years' service.



Winner of the Squash Club's "Plate" competition was David West (right), pictured here with runner-up Brian Borsberry. (Also see back page).



John Armstrong was presented with a cheque and spirits (!) on his retirement after 29 years in the Machine Shop. His foreman, Dougie Young, made the presentation.



"We could do with one of your airborne early warning systems with HER flying about!"

Who's who in the ballet



Included in this scene from the Chelmsford Ballet Company's 1979 production of La Boutique Fantasque are Daphne Wilson (left) and Ted

Marconi Radar is well represented in the Chelmsford Ballet Company these days. Prominent members include Ted Francis, Development Division, Baddow (Hon. Chairman); Daphne Wilson, Establishments Department, Writtle Road (Hon. Secretary); and Peter Bright, Supplies Department, Writtle Road (Hon. Publicity Officer). In addition, the Hon. Director, Alan Hartley-Smith, was once Publicity Officer with Radar, while some readers might remember the Hon. Membership Secretary. Phyllis Chaney, who is married now to Mike Chaney, Marconi

Always active, the Ballet Company have now embarked on their latest venture. This time it's to be 'Cinderella' with music by Prokofiev, which is to be staged at the Civic Theatre towards the end of April. Rehearsals are in full swing, with Ted trying his hand as an ugly sister while Daphne and Peter are cast as

Active

In recent years, the company has staged such ballets as Petrushka, Two Pigeons, Les Sylphides, La Boutique Fantasque, Coppelia, The Sleeping Beauty and Giselle. Besides the annual spring production the company also has an autumn show under the 'Spectrum' label which includes many items choreographed by members. The President at this time is Miss Maryon Lane, principal teacher at the Royal Ballet School, who takes a great interest in the company.

An active part is taken in local events put together for charity and this, together with activities such as the annual day course, rummage sales, sponsored walks, discos and coach trips to London theatres keeps the members busy.

The Ballet Company is always on the lookout for fresh talent. Besides the dancing members, non-dancing/acting members and volunteers who have an interest in backstage work are always welcome. Anyone interested should contact one of the committee members.

HERMES HORIZONS

Have you ever wanted to try skiing, punting, horse riding, disco skating, abseiling, pot-holing, parachuting — but never found anyone to go with? Then why not join the Hermes Club?

Originally started for graduates, the club now welcomes all young people in the Marconi Company at Chelmsford who are interested in sporting or social activities. With an already thriving membership, the club provides a meeting point for many young people who have started work, often away from family and friends.

As well as arranging weekend breaks and holidays, club members have been on visits to places of interest and on organised canal cruises, barbecues, regular badminton evenings, treasure hunts, films and games evenings and the like.

Membership of the Hermes Club costs only 50 pence, and a form can be obtained from Jill Howell, MCSL, Room 32a, Waterhouse Lane. The club will then put you in touch with your local representative.



Mr. Dale closes his Diary

Frank Dale has retired from the Company at New Parks after nearly 34 years' service. He is pictured here with friends and colleagues after being presented with farewell gifts by Tom Nuttall, Manager, Control and Simulation Division.

Frank left the Royal Navy as a Lieutenant

(SP) RNVR after 5½ years in the service and joined the Radio Department of Metropolitan-Vickers in 1946, where he was engaged on sales, ship survey and installation of Seascan Marine Navigational Radar. At the 1951 Festival of Britain in London he had the honour of describing navigational radar to Her Majesty the Queen Mother.

He then acted as Senior Sales Engineer, co-ordinating requirements between the Ministry of Aviation, Research Establishments and A.E.I. Trafford Park, until he was appointed Assistant Manager, Military Radar Sales Department, in 1960.

In 1968 he moved to the Sales Department of what is now Control and Simulation Division at New Parks, Leicester, becoming specifically responsible for the sales of CMM (Computerised Modular Monitoring).

Frank will still have to open his diary occasionally, as his services have been retained by the Company as Consultant for some two days a week.



• Punting is one of the leisurely pursuits enjoyed every year by members of the Hermes Club.



ABOVE LEFT: Father Christmas (who looks astonishingly like Jim Chambers) has a friendly word with (from left to right) Heather Leason, Tracey Mowbray and Sarah Smith at the New Parks children's party. Ten-year-old Heather shows great promise in her only hobby — dancing. Recently she gained a Gold, two Silvers and a Bronze medal in one test session.

ABOVE CENTRE: Southend Drawing Office would like us to know that the Christmas spirit was alive there, too! Designer Peter Barrs and secretary/drawing assistant Bernadine Knatchbull were caught having fun with a plastic nose.

ABOVE RIGHT: This happy group of youngsters not only enjoyed a party in the Blackbird Road canteen, but were also entertained by the Phoenix Travelling Pantomime who presented "Jill and the Beanstalk" (obviously Women's Lib!),

Remember Christmas?

With British Summer Time beginning on the 16th of this month most of us are beginning to think of warm sunshine and holidays ahead, but perhaps there is still time to take a last look back to the festive season.

BELOW RIGHT: A happy gathering of retired Gateshead employees who were entertained to a Christmas lunch in the works canteen.

BELOW CENTRE: "How on earth did SHE get in here?" Some of the guests at the Transmitter Group Dinner Dance at Chelmsford found Miss Piggy enjoying herself on the dance floor.

BELOW LEFT: A happy group of guests tripping the light fantastic at the Radar Buffet Dance.





Meet the champs

Marconi Squash Club, Gateshead, held its second annual club championship recently. The turnout for the competition showed a great improvement on the first year — so much so that a "Plate" competition was arranged for all first round losers.

Our picture shows club champion Michael Nicholson (right) and runner-up Bob Douglas.



☆ If anyone is interested in arranging a squash match with MRSL at Gateshead, please contact Michael Nicholson on extension 363.

Chelmsford Golf

■ Two golfers from Writtle Road, Johnny Johnson of Sales and Sid Woodhall of Wiring Assembly, helped Chelmsford Golf Club to win the 1979 Essex Junior Golf Cup recently. The cup was won in a knockout competition held at Naylands Golf Club against the Boyce Hill club. Each team consisted of ten players, who had to progress through all the rounds to the final with a handicap of not less than eight.

Keep us posted!

NEWS items, photographs, letters and other contributions for the next edition of ECHO are now welcome. Copy date is May 16.

Your contact is Arnold Smith, Editor ECHO, MRSL, New Parks, Leicester. Tel. (0533) 871481, Ext. 60 Int. 577. Or material may be handed to Christine Merrill, Assistant Publicity Officer, at Writtle Road.

Football Competition

■ The Marconi Inter-departmental Football Competition starts the second half of the season on Monday, March 17. The full fixture list is available, and the Cup Final this year will be played on Tuesday, May 6.





Darts stars

Radar Test at Writtle Road, after finishing as runners-up last season, are back in their winning ways. Once again they are the interdepartmental darts champions.

Pictured here are some of the victorious players (left to right): R. Cummings (captain), D. Buxton, P. Barnes, J. Harrington and D. Bowerman. Absent at the time were D. Skingley, T. Plumpton, D. Watts and G. Brewster.