

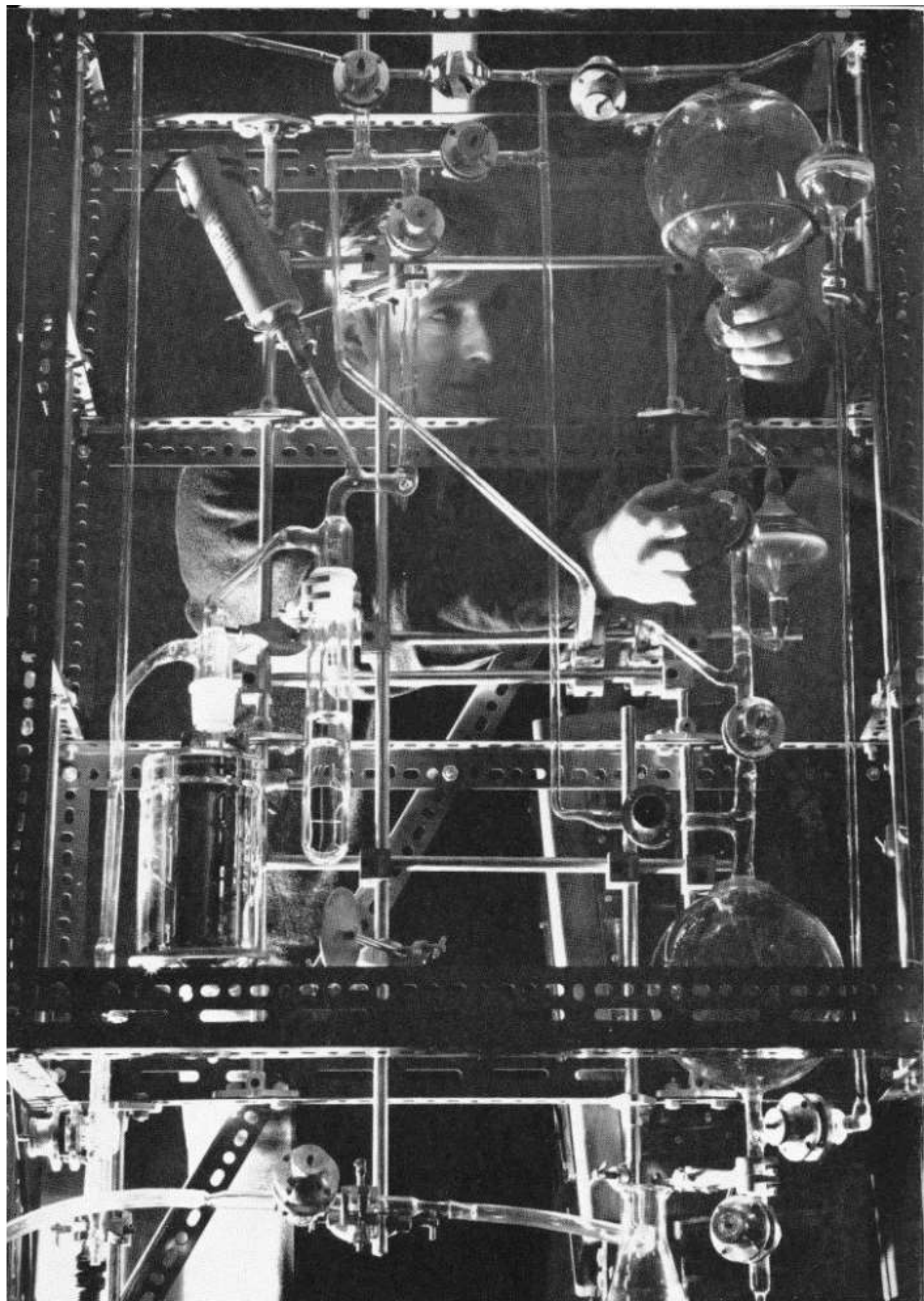
NEM

# Marconi

companies and their people



Volume 18 Number 6 January 1968 Sixpence



# First pictures on the air

AFTER THE opening of the B.B.C.'s new colour television service and the highlighting of the Marconi colour camera, the spots must now be turned on a key piece of equipment in the foyer of Building 46. The caption on its plate reads: 'The final amplifier unit of the Marconi 17 kW television transmitter which operated at the Alexandra Palace station of the B.B.C. 1937-1956.' This was the transmitter of the first public television service, the first service in the world.

The Marconi-E.M.I. system was chosen by the B.B.C. after the famous competition with Baird. Henry Luxon, Superintendent, Assembly Groups, Equipment Division, New Street, remembers that contest as though it were only yesterday. He led the team who built the transmitter, he installed it, lived with it during the competition, and was at Alexandra Palace when the B.B.C.'s verdict was announced. To him fell the honour of going to fetch our museum piece when it was finally taken out of service, nearly twenty years later.

There are two others of the original installation party still working with us. Red Pascoe of R. & D. Workshops, and Sid Stockwell now at Waterhouse Lane. They also worked on associated equipment while the transmitter was built in Beam Section by Henry Luxon, Fred Cook, Sid Rose, Roy Coningsby, and Bill Woodward, and finally assembled by Henry in R. & D. Laboratories. The team was under the direction of two, now well known, Marconi engineers, Ned Davis and Ernie Green.

At 'Ally Pally' Henry Luxon also installed the control desk and feeders to the aerial designed by the great C. S. Franklin. Red Pascoe had worked for Franklin during service at Marconi's Poldhu station, Cornwall, where he joined as a boy.

In the many sections now in Henry Luxon's charge, television transmitters have been built for countries all over the world, and the colour camera follows with ever increasing sales overseas.

**FRONT COVER:** Girls of the Companies' telephone exchanges are doing a great job, and they handle Company traffic with efficiency. Here are two of them, Maureen O'Grady, left, a senior telephonist, and Elizabeth Crichton. Maureen joined the Marconi Company straight from school and was trained at New Street. (See 'I'm putting you through', page 20)

# Marconi

An 'English Electric' Company

## The Marconi Companies and Their People

Editor: L. W. B. Miller, M.A.I.E.

St. Mary's House, Victoria Road,  
Chelmsford

Printed by Benham and Company  
Limited, Colchester



THE QUEEN'S AWARD TO  
INDUSTRY 1966 1967

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The search for a liquid as an alternative to transformer oil. Here is G. W. Whalley, Transmission Techniques Lab. at Baddow, using apparatus to purify and de-gas fluorochemicals, a new group of liquid dielectrics. Mr. Whalley is studying for his Ph.D. and is working in liaison with London University

**BELOW:** The final amplifier of the transmitter for the first public television service, and three of the team who installed it. Left to right, Sid Stockwell, Red Pascoe and Henry Luxon. All have over forty years' service, Red forty-eight years. (See 'First pictures on the air')





# Opportunities of a

THAT ENCOURAGING and instructive evening event, the annual Apprentice Presentation Ceremony, reveals a great deal about the Company's character as well as its training. This year's guest speaker was a Marconi 'Old Boy' who knows us equally well at Management and Shop Floor level: Mr. Ben Ford, J.P., Member of Parliament for Bradford North, and one-time Works Convenor at New Street.

Mr. Ford spoke of the challenge before an M.P. like himself, 'plucked from the mainstream of industrial activity', and told us some of the ways in which the House of Commons was adapting itself to the rapidly changing pressures of the times.

In talking about the Company, he paid a warm

tribute to our highly geared training complex, with instruction available to employees of all grades. 'If I may address myself to the trainees and apprentices directly,' he said emphatically, 'I want to urge you to make the most of the opportunities you have in a Company like this. You will be doing yourselves a favour and helping the country as well, by going as far as your ability will allow. If you don't seize this chance, you might be condemning yourselves to a lifetime of frustration—employed under your capacity. Whether you like it or not, you have an enormous responsibility—from your ranks will be coming all the skills needed to help us meet the challenge of a changing world.'

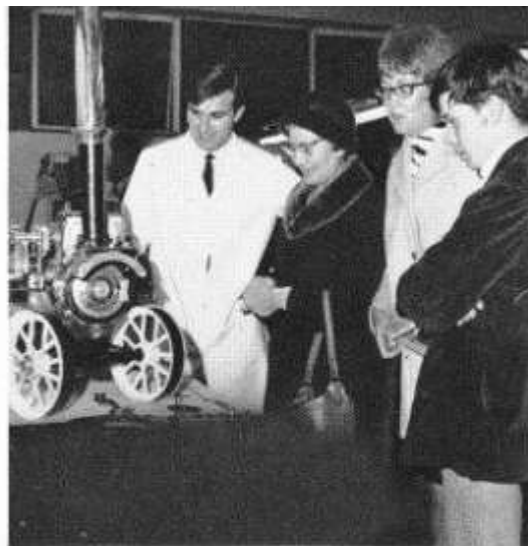
LEFT: The Guest of Honour at the Apprentice prize-giving, Mr. Ben Ford, M.P., presenting an award to Miss M. M. King; highly commended test technician in final year

RIGHT TOP, LEFT: Mr. Ben Ford, front, in the apprentices' training centre with F. R. J. Langridge, Chief Training Officer, left, and Managing Director R. Telford, who was in the chair at the presentation ceremony

TOP, RIGHT: This traction engine made by apprentices as an exercise in skill was sold towards funds for the M.A.A. Left, Bob Nudd, Sheet Metal Instructor

BOTTOM, LEFT: Doug Williams, Senior Instructor, Milling Section, right, with M. J. Allen cutting a spiral

BOTTOM, RIGHT: A young lady-operator, now doing a course in the training centre, working on printed boards



# lifetime

A full report of the year's training was given by the Manager, Central Personnel Services, J. F. H. Pease-Watkin. We now have over 1,300 apprentices, nearly double the number of only three years ago.

'There are people,' said Mr. Pease-Watkin, 'who query the need for so many apprentices; the intake this year for example includes 3 per cent of all the scientists and engineers leaving university with degrees relevant to our industry as well as more than 150 for technician and 100 for craft training. However, the rate of expansion of the Company means an extensive external recruitment demand, and in the years ahead we shall be looking for even greater numbers of apprentices.'

Marconi College and the Staff Development Centre, he said, now cope with 150,000 student hours a year, involving an immense variety of equipment with which the staff have to deal.

'The Staff Development Centre', he said, 'has established a very happy liaison with the M.E. Technical College Department of Management Studies, and a number of courses have been run for us by them. Much of Mr. Milton's effort is concerned with the proper use of the many external courses available to industry as well as the implementation of suitable training within the Company. About one in ten of the Company's staff take part in some form of training during the year. Some 360 engineers, for example, are at present taking part in the many post-graduate courses available at the Technical Colleges, particularly the Mathematics, Electrical and Mechanical Engineering departments of the M.E.T.C.'

'I am pleased to say that we have continued to satisfy the requirements of the E.L.T.B. so as to



TOP, LEFT: A group of prize-winning apprentices with two young lady trainees in the foreground

TOP, RIGHT: Mr. Ben Ford making a presentation to R. Dobson, the craft-apprentice who was the most helpful to his fellows

ABOVE, LEFT: Another group of prize-winners. There are several graduates of the graduate project among them

ABOVE, RIGHT: Two Gateshead apprentices were among the prize-winners, A. Gribbon, left, and J. A. Gordon. This is the first time Gateshead has been represented at New Street

secure grants that exceed the levy we pay them.' Mr. Pease-Watkin reported: 'The Training Boards continue and indeed increase their influence over our training methods,' he reminded us, 'and a number of changes have taken place in the various training patterns. The apprentices continue to record more than 75 per cent passes in their external examinations and are to be congratulated on this. We have begun to use programmed learning techniques and, since they seem to be successful, shall be greatly expanding their use in the future. A criterion for their success is that 80 per cent of

those who do them should secure at least 80 per cent correct answers. In one subject, the boys have done better—some 90 per cent of the marks being obtained by 80 per cent of them, and all of them securing the standard 80 per cent mark.'

Mr. Pease-Watkin mentioned some of the most outstanding awards, and paid whole-hearted tribute to the devotion of the training staff. Finally he spoke of the apprentices' leisure activities, and made it clear that the Company agrees with the guest speaker's advice to the boys 'to have a break from the old grind now and then!'

# Happy families

FIFTEEN years ago, in a series called Happy Families, we printed a photograph of Mrs. Doris Warren, Canteen Manageress, with her husband Jack, and teenage son and daughter, Alan and Jacqueline, all in the Company. Alan had just started his apprenticeship with the Company, and Jacqueline had not long joined her mother behind the scenes in the canteen.

Today the family is as happy and united as ever, but more than doubled in number with the addition of a son-in-law and daughter-in-law and four grandsons. They all live within easy distance: the parents in Springfield, Jacqueline and her husband in Chignal Road, and Alan and his wife off Beehive Lane.

Mrs. Warren is still in charge of the canteen, which feeds about a thousand people each day; Mr. Warren is with M.I.M.C., now at Westway; Alan is a chargehand at Widford, and Jacqueline's husband, Maurice Fairchild, is in Contracts and Commercial, Automation Division, at Marrable House.



Happy Families, left to right, Mrs. Jacqueline Fairchild, Jack Warren, Alan Warren, Mrs. Doris Warren, Maurice Fairchild, Mrs. Pam Warren. Jack built the hi-fi set, complete with stereo system, radio, record-player and tape

## New M.A.S.C. Committee

The newly elected General Committee of the M.A.S.C. for 1967-8 photographed, with Club Officials, at their first meeting on 29 November at which R. G. Morgan was re-elected chairman, and A. S. Bigden vice-chairman. Left to right, sitting: H. R. Adams (Executive Officer), R. G. Morgan, R. W. Bell (Chief Executive). Standing: H. Warwick, D. E. Norman, Miss S. C. Chinnulgund, R. Lincoln, P. R. Springett, R. F. Sims, D. E. Poole, H. Hawkes, P. Farmer (Treasurer), D. E. Beesley (Auditor), A. S. Bigden, S. Downing, N. F. Horsley, G. Bowen.



# *A baby is born*

A GREAT DEAL of unhappiness has been brought to some mothers, who, because of their blood group, tend to be unable to have no more than one or two babies. Recently, however, a Marconi Image Intensifier has been used in a new technique to overcome this problem.

The first baby of a woman with this blood group (some 0.5 per cent of women) is usually normal but during pregnancy antibodies are built up by the mother which destroy the blood cells of the second and later babies. Nowadays blood tests are made when a woman is pregnant so that the condition is detected at an early stage.

A technique has been developed whereby during pregnancy, starting often as early as the twenty-second week, new blood of the correct group is introduced every two weeks into the baby's abdomen to replace the blood destroyed by the antibodies. A member of the medical team working on the problem has said 'Since the introduction of Intra-peritoneal Transfusion of the baby whilst it is still in the uterus, the chance of the mother to produce further live children is greatly increased.'

This technique is being used by one of the long-established but forward-looking teaching hospitals, Queen Charlotte's Maternity Hospital, in West London, which has recently installed a Marconi Image Intensifier. With the use of this equipment a picture of the unborn child is portrayed on the monitor screen with the precise detail necessary to perform a blood transfusion on the baby.

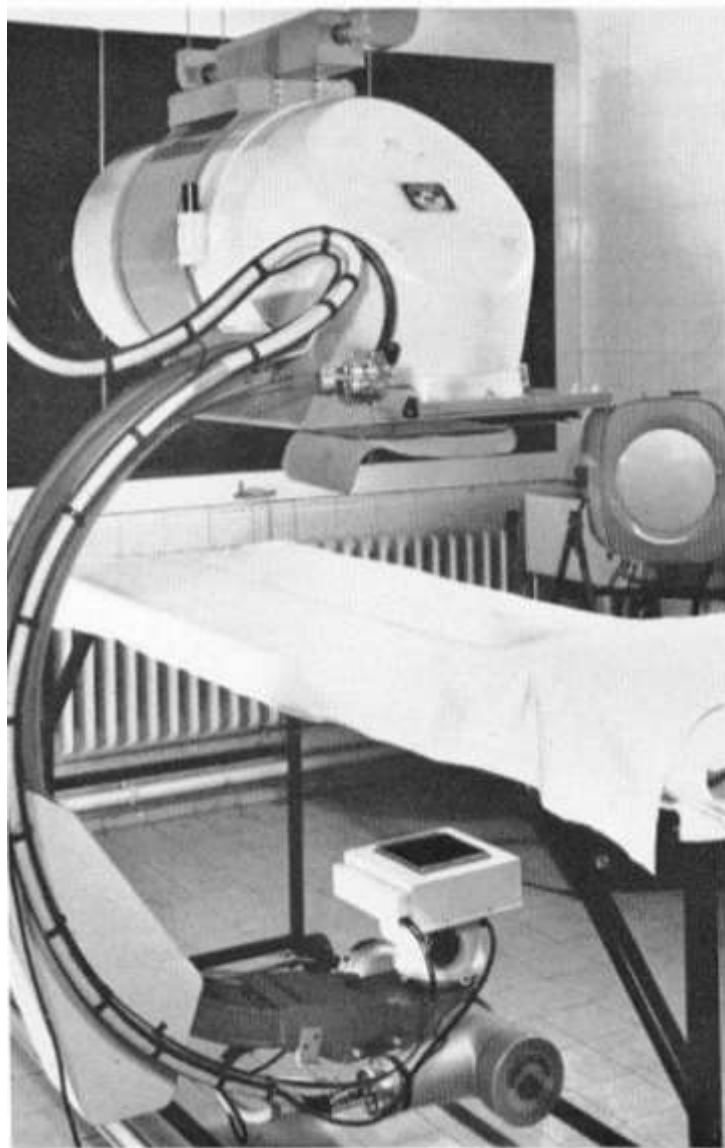
This demonstrates one of the many advantages made possible by image intensifiers compared with conventional X-ray apparatus, particularly when used in maternity hospitals. Its combination of X-ray and television gives a fluoroscopic image on the TV-style monitor screen which needs only a relatively small amount of patient radiation. The intensifier can be operated in a lighted room—more comfortable for both patient and doctor. A recording camera makes it possible to produce a record of the image at doses tolerable to the patient, and the provision of remote monitors is particularly valuable in a teaching hospital.

It is possible that Marconi people are involved in another way for many of them are blood donors, though only a small proportion are of the correct group to be used for this particular life-giving purpose.

The mother has much more hope of keeping her baby alive and of raising a happy family with the use of this technique, and Marconi Instruments are proud to be associated with such worth-while work.

OPPOSITE, TOP: The doctor shows the patient her baby on the screen of the Image Intensifier before proceeding with the technique described.

LEFT: The Marconi Image Intensifier. As positioned in this photograph the camera head is at the top, the X-ray source is at the foot and the viewing monitor is to the right.





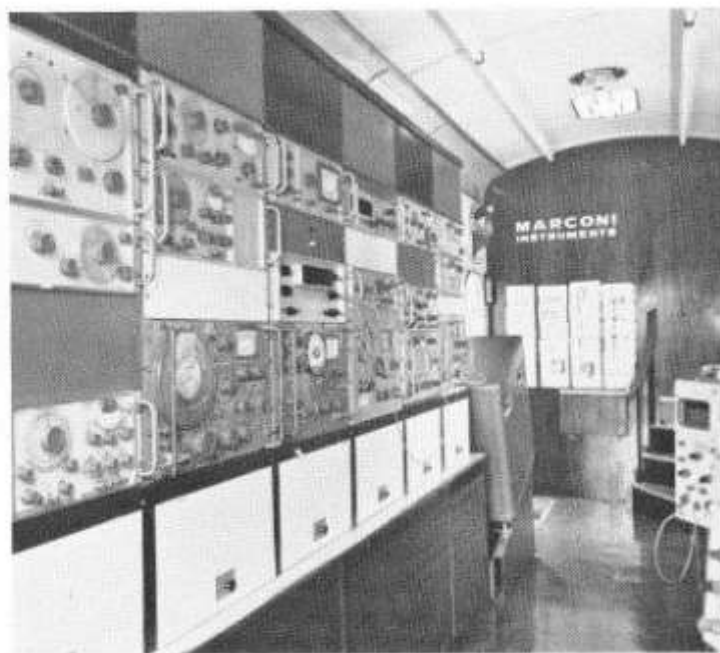


## Showroom on wheels

TOM TAFT and the M.I. mobile showroom have returned to St. Albans with more than a 100,000 miles on the clock. The latest European trip covered 17,000 miles, lasted ten months, and the route covered France, Germany, Austria, Italy, Denmark and Finland; finishing with Belgium and the Aerospace Exhibition in Brussels in June. Tom, by the way, lives in Brussels, his wife is Belgian.

During the tour, 4,500 instrument users saw the latest M.I. oscilloscopes, signal generators and bridges.

This showroom on wheels measures 35 ft. overall, and weighs, with instruments, nine tons. It is handled with considerable skill by Company driver Tom, who has driven it round virtually every country in Europe, and even crossed the Brenner Pass in mid-January.



The 35 ft. travelling showroom with the latest in M.I. equipment ready to be shown to European visitors.

# Links from Past to Present

## Mainstay

One of the mainstays of the Company's aerial design and erection teams down the years has been C. T. Rafferty of Central Division, and he worked on masts and aerials for half a century.

Fifty-one years ago he started in the Design Office at Marconi House, London, where Marconi and George Kemp were concerned with main Company projects. Since then he has worked on installations such as the first S.W. B.B.C. station at Daventry, for which he did detailed designs and spent four months there to see them carried out. He was concerned with the new aerials for the Overseas Service and similar contracts. During the war aerials to his calculations were put up for radar stations in Britain from east to west coasts. Calculations of design covered every detail, such as working out sags in triatics in order to hang dipole aerials horizontally.

After the war he turned to installation work, and in 1949 joined Central Division to look after the erection of masts and aerials. Then followed the installation of masts and aerials for the I.T.A. television stations in England, Ireland and Scotland. The first was Croydon. Lichfield, Winter Hill, Emley Moor followed—about a dozen altogether. There were important export contracts, among the latest being aerials for the 100 kW and 250 kW stations in Ghana.

When 'Raff' retired, W. J. Meehan took over from him and he now operates the installation service for the Division which sends people to work all over the world.

Mr. Rafferty was, in his time, the number one tennis player for Head Office, London, and his partner in mixed

doubles was Steve Holloway, now Manager, Packing and Transport.

## Before the grid

'I joined the Company before the grid', said Chief Electrician Bill Munday, 'in the days when you got tea at break if you were lucky and the Foreman did not spot you plunging the kettle into the Power-house boiler furnace. We generated our own power with steam-turbines driving d.c. generators, and 150 kW was the total winter's load. I was the only electrician then. That was in 1924, but by 1935 we had installed diesels and the load was 700-800 kW. We went over to the grid just before the war.'

Mr. Munday and his electricians carried a heavy load during the war, installing power, lighting, driving motors in new factories—Hackbridge, Albert Embankment, Vauxhall, Parsons Green, Baddow, and Chelmsford.

The valve factory was set up by Marconi's. There has always been work at Baddow. 'It is our job to take the power. We carry raw a.c. to the front door of the building like the milkman', he said, 'then carry on from there with engineers' instructions.'

In recent years the Company has expanded rapidly. 'I have never known a case where the Company has looked back. We have had big jobs to do; Bushey Hill switchboard, for example. Recently, we were concerned with commissioning the main power at Witham.'

Mr. Munday was a keen member of the Fire Brigade. He took over from H. J. McCarthy, Power Engineer, during the war, and was Second Officer to him for years.

BELOW, LEFT: Friends subscribed to a pair of binoculars for Dick Paternoster when he retired from Rainsford Lane after fifty-one years' Company service. C. R. Collen, Superintendent 'S' Group, Widford, made the presentation. RIGHT: After more than thirty-two years with the Company, the last ten of which were spent at Baddow, Frank Bome has retired, and before he left, a gold watch was presented to him by A. V. G. Martin, Design Office Manager, Radar Division, from friends throughout the Company

OPPOSITE, BELOW LEFT: At a party at 'The Cricketers', Danbury, A. W. Brewster of the College was presented with power tools, binoculars and a windcheater to mark his retirement after thirty-eight years' service by J. F. H. Pease-Watkin, Manager, Central Personnel Services. RIGHT: J. P. Wykes was for many years Manager, Maritime Division, and Company colleagues came to give him a send-off after forty-nine years' service. Here are Mr. and Mrs. Wykes with Mr. Telford after the presentation





LEFT: When C. T. Rafferty retired after fifty-one years' service, colleagues gathered in Waterhouse Lane canteen to wish him well. P. J. Donnelly, Manager, Central Division, presented him with home movie equipment, and Mrs. Dorothy Emery, Chief of Typing Services, gave a bouquet to Mrs. Rafferty. RIGHT: Chief Electrician Bill Munday retired with forty-three years' service, almost twenty-three of them as Chief Electrician. A double-chime clock from his friends was presented to him in New Street canteen by B. F. Carlton, Plant Engineer



He has always had a happy department. 'We sailed into quite a few difficulties', he said, 'but because of the efforts of the staff we managed to weather the storms.'

### Maritime developments

After almost forty-nine years' service J. P. Wykes retired in November. He was for many years Manager of Maritime Division, and was responsible for the successful exploitation of the frequency synthesizer and broadband amplifier transmitters which are now used throughout the British fleet as well as by naval vessels of other countries.

He joined the Marconi Company in 1918 and, like many other Marconi engineers, started at sea as a radio operator. He transferred to MWT in 1934 as a development engineer, and during the war was manager of the Quartz Crystal Department. In 1946 he became Chief of Test Division, and in 1949 Works Manager. Then in 1956 he completed the full cycle and returned to Maritime duties.

### Twenty-one years at College

A. W. Brewster joined the Company in 1929, and for seventeen years worked for successive research managers in London and at Baddow. He also worked for C. S. Franklin, H. J. Round and T. L. Eckersley. He went to Marconi College in 1946, and was concerned with technical recruitment and administration. In twenty-one years he has become known to numbers of Marconi people and students, all of whom will remember him for his kindness and his help.

### In all the D.O.s

Frank Bome of Radar Division, Baddow, retired after thirty-two years' service. He said 'I've been in every design office we've got, except Kensal House and Marrable House, and that includes three in Baddow'. He first started in the original Marconi House, Chelmsford, overlooking the railway sidings. He has worked on equipment such as the



the Type 404 heightfinder, Type 84 and R1030 transmitters as well as mast design.

He looks forward to his hobby—woodworking—and making toys for the children.

#### Fifty-one years' service

Dick Paternoster started in the machine shop in 1916 under the well-known foreman of that time, Jack Cave. He worked his way up through the milling section to instrument shop and finally to model shop.

He says that one of the outstanding personalities he remembers was C. S. Franklin, the engineer, who often came into the works to talk to the men. On one particular occasion Dick was making parts for the Franklin oscillator.

Dick Pat, as he was known, received several awards for suggestions. He retired with fifty-one years' service.

## Retirements in the Chelmsford area

(Second half of 1967)

### STAFF

#### August

O. E. Keall 42 years Research Div., Baddow

#### September

W. J. Munday 43 years Works Services Division

#### October

A. Courtney-Jones 12 years Works Accounts, Baddow

A. W. Brewster 38 years College

#### December

Miss L. E. French 45 years Equipment Division

L. Ray 31 years Education

J. F. Clark 12 years Building and Facilities Gp.

A. M. Johnson 10 years Works Engineering Div.

Sir John Eaton 9 years Central Personnel Services

E. Heathwood 7 years Works Services Division

### WORKS

#### July

C. A. E. Pearce 20 years Labourer

W. E. Burrell 13 years Assistant Storekeeper

#### August

P. R. Bingham 2 years Driver

#### September

A. Osborne 27 years Polisher

Mrs. E. Larter 17 years Crystal Assembler

#### October

S. Bundock 12 years Labourer

E. C. J. Brewer 10 years Carpenter

Miss E. Munn 5 years Assistant Cook

Miss R. A. Bates 3 years Cook

#### December

C. Moore 39 years Checker

T. S. Woodhouse 36 years Labourer (now part-time)

C. Chaplin 28 years Stores Assistant

A. C. Joslin 27 years Painter

W. Little 8 years Labourer

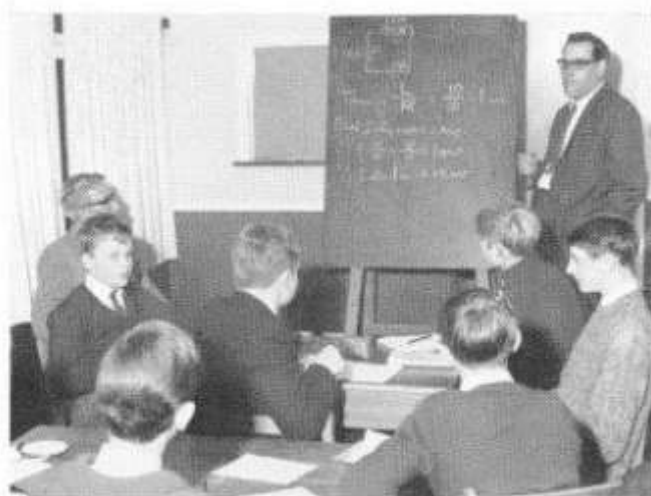
## Air training with Basildon's help

ONLY FORMED last year, the eighteen-strong band of 2243 Squadron Basildon Air Training Corps has already achieved a high standard of music and smartness. All last summer they practised on the B.M.C. playing fields, and all concerned, officers, bandmaster, and members of the welfare committee, are extremely grateful to the Basildon Marconi Club for this important facility.

2243 Squadron, with over sixty cadets, could almost be said to have been adopted by members of B.M.C. The Squadron C.O. is Ken Knight of Central Inspection E Building, and the Bandmaster Les Burton of Waveguide Section. The Welfare Committee responsible for all fund-raising, general expenditure, sport, welfare amenities, liaison with other youth organizations as well as the general efficiency of the squadron are George Hoare (chairman), Senior Work Study engineer E. Building, Rick Cope, (secretary), Work Study/System and Procedures engineer, Marion Harvey (treasurer) Work Study engineer, Electrical and Ground Unit, and Charlie Manstein, Quality Assurance engineer, E Building, together with two other non-Marconi people, plus the squadron padre, the Rev. Buxton of the Church of the Holy Cross, Basildon.

The squadron has an amateur radio station, G3NLL, operating on Monday and Thursday evenings, which has become the Wing signal station, and is used as an example to all other squadrons within the Wing. Thanks are again due to Marconi's

Roy Storey of Basildon Test instructing an Air Training Corps class in radio communications engineering.





TOP, LEFT: Members of the Squadron's welfare committee which looks after the financial work. George Hoare, chairman; Rick Cope, secretary; Marion Harvey, treasurer; and Charles Manstein

TOP, RIGHT: Howard Buckenham is responsible for the Squadron's engineering work.

ABOVE, LEFT: Les Burton with the drummers' class

ABOVE, RIGHT: Ken Knight, C.O. of 2243 Squadron, A.T.C., with some of the boys and a cut-away jet engine. Ken's son Barry is on the extreme right [Photos G. Hoare]

for various scrap pieces of equipment which have been adapted and put to good use. Roy Storey, Coil Winding Test, is running a radio operator's course, to enable a number of cadets to get their G.P.O. licences, and Howard Buckenham, E.O.S. Div., acts as a civilian instructor teaching radio and electronics.

If B.M.C. members know of any young men between fourteen and eighteen who are interested in the A.T.C., perhaps they would tell them to come along to the H.Q., Cherrydown, Basildon, on a Monday or Thursday evening, when we shall be very glad to have them.

## Scouts do well

CO-OPERATION between industry and youth was demonstrated once more at the Essex Scouts' swimming gala held in the Chelmsford indoor pool and sponsored this year by The Marconi Company.

Marconi Personnel were to the fore in the Chelmsford team with Hugh Cutmore, Beehive Lane, and Roger Pinches, Baddow, showing their skill in the water, whilst the team was managed jointly by Roger Pinches and Jack Levett, Patents Department. Chelmsford was well placed in all sections, and the boys are determined that next year they will be outright winners.

A display of closed-circuit television, and equipment made by Marconi apprentices was of great interest.

Trophies were presented by R. L. Murphy, Assistant Manager, Commercial Services Department, who was supported at the Gala by J. E. Lewis and F. Erridge of the Training Department.



# Colour among the Temples

*By P. A. T. Turrall,  
Deputy Chief of Sales,  
Broadcasting Division*

**The new Mark VII colour camera has already achieved world acclaim. Outstanding performances have been given at the National Association of Broadcasters' Exhibition in the U.S.A., at Montreux Exhibition, Switzerland, and more recently at the International Broadcasting Convention in London. Now a system has gone to the Far East.**

WE ALL KNOW that Thailand is famed for its colourful temples and religious buildings and in this way its beauty is unsurpassed. But colour with a difference came to this eastern country when The Marconi Company won a contract for the supply of colour television equipment in time to cover the Thailand Beauty Contest in Bangkok on 23 November, for the Bangkok Broadcasting and Television Corporation.

It was during the second week of September that the company's Thailand agents, Messrs. Yip in Tsoi and Jacks Limited, told us that two gentlemen interested in setting up a commercial colour television enterprise were on their way to London to negotiate the purchase of suitable equipment. At that time Broadcasting Division's colour television cameras were on exhibition at the Royal Lancaster Hotel, London, for the International Broadcasting Convention. The visitors were intercepted and shown the equipment. Duly impressed by the first-rate display of our cameras, they decided that Marconi's were to supply, provided the required urgent delivery could be met.

Always willing to accept a challenge, Broadcasting Division engineers produced a system, and after lengthy discussion I concluded the contract negotiations.

Everyone kept hard at it, to make sure that this interesting contract was progressed to keep the promised delivery. It meant that two colour-camera channels with all the necessary vision and sound mixers, colour monitors and all necessary items for a full working system, together with a videotape recorder, had to be got together in the short space of six weeks.

With great enthusiasm, divisional sales and contracts people worked many long hours, together with Works, Purchasing, Test, Packing and Trans-



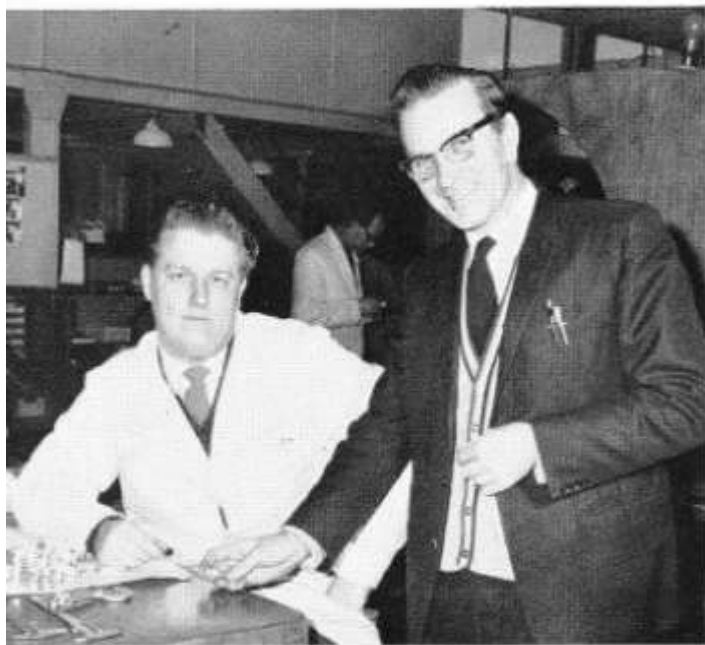
ABOVE: A courtyard of the temple of the Emerald Buddha in Bangkok. Beyond rises the pinnacle of a golden pagoda. These buildings are scrupulously clean, and there is extensive use of inlay work of fragments of coloured glass and china. RIGHT: In the old part of the town houses are still built on piles, and rivers are roads. This is part of the famous floating market [Photos by H. G. Livingston Evans]

port Departments, to get the equipments to London Airport by 3 November, when it was flown out to Bangkok. Martin Lilley and John Fildes, two of our Television Demonstration Unit engineers, left for Bangkok on 6 November and began the installation of all the colour equipment into a television outside-broadcast vehicle.

The Company's Thailand agents, in particular Eugene Hoeberechts, a young enthusiastic engineer, saw to it that all formalities at the destination went through without delay.

When this appears, the first colour television programmes in Thailand will have taken place and another valuable export order will have been delivered in record time, which just shows what enthusiasm and co-operation can do in achieving what seems an impossible task in the time-scale.





Roy Marshall, right, Section Leader, Machine Shop Inspection, Basildon, with Melvyn Frewin, 078 Section, who is inspecting waveguide junction blocks for the 560 aerial. Roy and Melvyn are busy in their spare time 'floating' the new Camping Section of the Social Club

## Under canvas

'IF THERE'S one thing that needs practice, it's camping,' said Roy Marshall, Section Leader, Basildon Machine Shop Inspection. 'You go on learning all your life. I remember my first camp...!'

Both Mr. Marshall and Melvyn Frewin of 078 Inspection are experienced campers, and they are chairman and secretary respectively of the newly formed and now officially recognized Camping Section of the Basildon Marconi Club.

'Campers are essentially individualists' said Melvyn, 'so obviously this section isn't primarily to arrange "get-togethers", although we shall probably run a week-end camp at Whitsun. The point is that the exchange of ideas, practical experience and up-to-date information on sites is more valuable to the camper than anything else.'

'Yes,' said Roy Marshall, 'and sometimes you get a recommendation and when you get to the site you have one look and pull out again.'

They both laughed and Mr. Marshall went on: 'But seriously, nine out of ten personal recommendations are most useful. Also, as a club we can eventually get ourselves affiliated to the Camping Club of Great Britain. They have good lists of sites and they have a tie-up with the Continent too. Then we can get free equipment insurance, discount on buying, and one or two other facilities.'

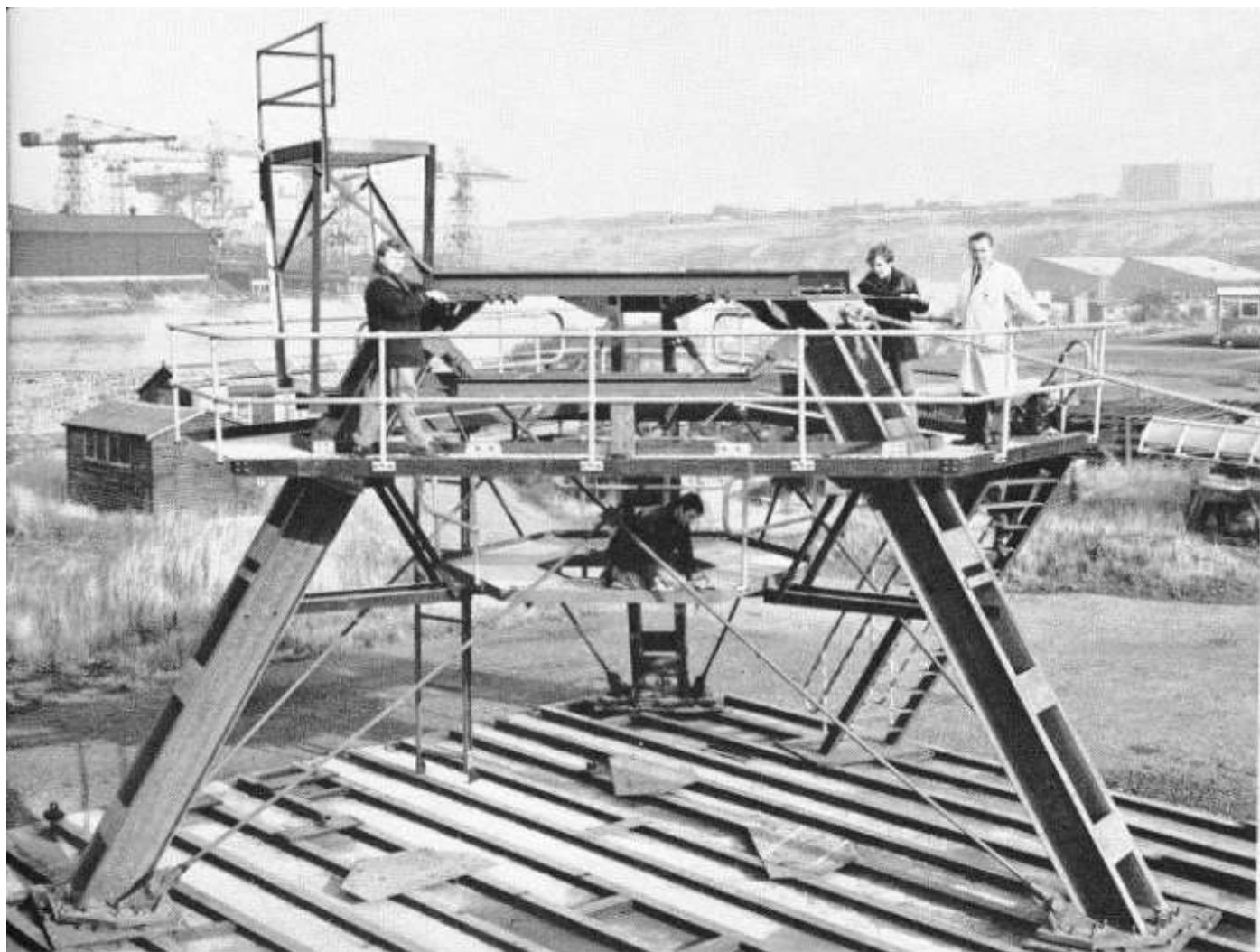
Tips on the vexed question of car-packing are

### Wedding with a difference

Technician apprentice David Peake has married and so becomes the first student ever to have done so while in residence at one of the hostels. Here with his bride, Maureen Blower, at Springfield Place, he receives a coffee-set from David Ainbury on behalf of his friends. Maureen is now in Packing and Transport







always useful. Melvyn thought his was adequate until he saw a family emerging from a Mini alongside: 'Tents, cooking equipment, father, mother, three children and a dog all poured out. The stuff that came out of that car wouldn't have gone on a lorry if some people had packed it.'

Not very safe, perhaps, but either Mum or Dad must have been a stacking genius.

Good luck to the Camping Section; may it literally keep fine for them. Anyone interested can contact either of these two in Inspection, or committee members Ted Kendall, 03 Section, Allan Whyte or Derek Whitford, both Cableforms.

## The champion

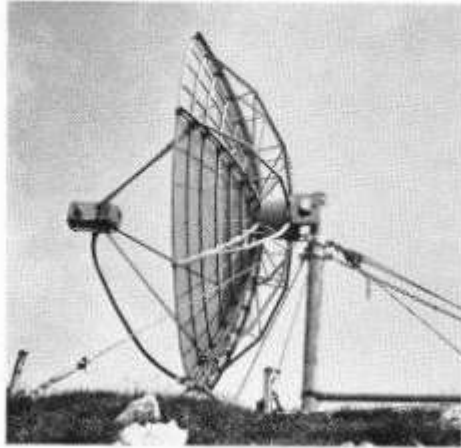
CONGRATULATIONS to George Gray, prototype wireman of M.I. Special Products, who is now the mid-heavy weight-lifting champion of Hertfordshire. Beating his nearest opponent by 15 lb., he lifted 1305 lb. in three competitive lifts, deep knee bend, press on bench and dead lift. He also came second in the East Midlands championship.

## Trial erection of Nadge gantry

ABOVE: New methods of building the structure of the Nadge height-finder aerial at Gateshead were featured in the November issue of this Magazine. Here is the trial erection of the gantry for the aerial with, left to right, fitters S. Benzie, J. Moore, P. Hillen, J. Frost, Foreman, and A. Meek. BELOW: Checking the positions of the support legs after final assembly, H. Elliott, Project Engineer, Radar Division, J. Moore, Section 006, and M. Clarke, Quality Control [John Wales]



# MARCONI'S CAN WIN



A race against time with a mountain to beat, and a job to complete. Another story of our determination to win key contracts in spite of competition from East and West

THE SIGNAL path of SHAPE's new communication's system from Brussels direct to Rome will pass through southern Germany and over the Alps into northern Italy. The hop over the mountains was the most difficult of the chain of links to assess, and a contract was put out to tender for the survey of this section and the measurement of the signal strength.

Marconi's won this contract against stiff opposition, and a tussle with time ensued. It stipulated that we should be on the air within three weeks. In fact, while Communications Division's sales team were still negotiating, survey engineers went over to scan the sites.

'We assembled the convoy at Rivenhall', said Gerald Lipson, leader of the survey, 'a seven-and-a-half ton truck, a two-ton van, and two Land-Rovers. Our equipment was to be ready for departure in a week. But there were hitches; testing was delayed, and finally we got away on Monday. This left less than two weeks to set up the tropospheric scatter stations north and south of the Alps and to get on the air by the day agreed—Thursday week.

'We arrived at Felberg the German site on Wednesday, and by 4 p.m. on Friday we had set up the receiving station. Leaving Vic Thurston and Alf Funge to keep the station in continuous operation we pushed on right away.'

Instead of taking the direct route to Italy, Gerald headed for Berne airport. He had a hunch that a

The Marconi survey team erecting the aerial of the receiving station at Felberg, high up in the Black Forest in Southern Germany, for the tropospheric scatter link with Telegrafo, Lake Garda, Northern Italy. Left to right: Ted Browne, truck driver; Vic Thurston; David Beavis; Gerald Lipson, leader of the survey; and Alf Funge [John Roach]





ABOVE: The station on Mt. Telegrafo, 7,277 ft., in Northern Italy. This shows the aerial, one of the tents, and the survey-style engine house on the right. There was only just room up here to make flats for the tents. The transportable 15 ft. dish aerials for both stations were made at Gateshead Works.  
 BELOW: The one-ton jet helicopter which Heliswiss sent to make the final lifts of equipment to site on Telegrafo.

check-up on the arrangements for the helicopter lift to Monte Telegrafo would be a good thing, as a helicopter was an absolute essential for lifting a radio station to a mountain top. An early, Saturday, visit to Heliswiss revealed that there was no definite assurance that sufficient aviation fuel for the helicopter's return journey had been transported to the Italian base. For this reason no flight plan had been made and helicopters were now fully booked for Monday and Tuesday. At this point in the discussion, a telephone call came from Italy assuring petrol supplies. The flight was now possible. But how soon? Could it be tomorrow? Yes. Sunday was agreed.

Precious hours had been lost. The outlook was bleak. To gain time crossing the mountains, Gerald put the vehicles on the railway under the Bernese Alps and by tea-time was on the road again, climbing over the Simplon Pass into Italy. In the early hours of Sunday morning the Marconi party drove up to Prada, the jumping-off point for Monte Telegrafo, 900 miles from Chelmsford.

By noon the helicopter had arrived. We were then in a nightmare situation, for no petrol had been delivered and cloud now obscured the route to the radio site. I asked John to take the Land-Rover and get petrol—but where do you find 120 octane spirit on an Italian Sunday afternoon? Relief came later





In camp on Mt. Telegrafo. Jack Martin, on the right of the tent, drove out from Chelmsford to bring special crystals. The survey team lived on the sites for a month. On Telegrafo, water and food had to be humped up the mountain each day [G. E. Lipson]

when the cloud broke enough for the helicopter to lift two loads of aerial equipment, and John returned with petrol. It was now evening and only two more lifts were made before it was time for the helicopter to return to base. Then all hope of ever meeting our contract date faded as the machine disappeared from sight.

Looking down from the mountain track to the main road in the valley 5,000 ft. below [G. E. Lipson]



'There was only one thing to do now: to drive our vehicles up the tracks to the highest possible point on the mountain range and carry up some of the lighter gear to save flying time and fuel when we could get another lift.'

By telephone Gerald persuaded Heliswiss to come again on Wednesday. With Marconi's still 'up the creek', the heliman arrived in a one-ton jet machine carrying his own fuel for the operation. By the evening Marconis were up the mountain, and by Thursday morning they were on the air.

'All our troubles were not yet over. The tropo signal was getting through, but the h.f. communication for the engineers' speech link was in difficulty. To overcome this we used V.H.F. walkie-talkie and the telephone for direct relay to Felberg until a third h.f. station was flown out to Marconi Italiana in Genoa. With their help a triangular route was set up, and messages from both sites, covering weather and radio data, were sent back daily to the Propagation Study Group at Baddow.'

Only a few weeks ago SHAPE invited tenders for the supply and installation of equipment for the whole communications system. We have made our offer and at the present time this is being adjudicated. Competition for this contract is international, but Marconi's can win.

## M.I. works reorganization

ASSEMBLY TEST has been divided into two units: Production Unit 1, which will deal primarily with signal sources, and Production Unit 2. These changes will enable work to be more effective when the assembly and testing of products are carried out in separate geographical areas.

Staff appointments:

D. W. Faulkner from Sub-Contract Group, Chief Inspector,

D. Stuckey from Expediting Section, Production Manager, Feeder Unit 2,

L. Harrington from Feeder Unit 2, Production Manager, Government Service Unit, Longacres,

P. O. Milbourn from Government Service Unit, Production Manager, Production Unit 2,

J. L. Akers Production Manager, Production Unit 1,

## The mobile standard

M.I.'S ENTRY into the high accuracy d.c. voltage-measurement field has given the Measurement Standards Laboratory people something new upon which to meditate. The accuracy of the TF2606 differential d.c. voltmeter, for instance, is specified as 0.02 per cent of the reading. The production test-gear must be better than that, and the Standards Laboratory apparatus must be still better. It is also necessary to plan for the future.

To check d.c. the laboratory keeps its precise standard cells in an oven which operates at a temperature of 30°C, is accurate to within one thousandth of a degree C and only drifts one hundredth of a degree C over a year. One can say it is reasonably accurate.

However, if the oven, which is voltage stabilised



J. H. Buying



### They went to London to see the Queen

The Managing Director, Mr. R. Telford, at Buckingham Palace after being invested with the order of Commander of the British Empire by Her Majesty The Queen. With Mr. and Mrs. Telford are their two younger daughters, Nicola and Philippa

and operates on 12 volts, is allowed to cool, it takes two days to warm and ten days to stabilise itself. In order to check the voltage against a known standard, the cells and oven must be transported to the National Physical Laboratory at Teddington.

The problem for Brian Murphy, Senior Measurement Standards Engineer, was how to avoid the waste of time in warming the oven again on its arrival and return. So Brian and his colleagues transferred the oven from mains supply to batteries, carefully transported the whole lot to a shooting brake and switched the oven to the car battery. A similar procedure was carried out at Teddington and on the return journey.

The care taken in maintaining a precise standard will show in the accuracy of the d.c. measurements made with the TF2606 and other M.I. test equipment.

### M.I.'s Overseas Projects Manager

Responsible for the smooth operation of M.I.'s overseas manufacturing operations is J. H. Buying, who has been appointed Manager, Overseas Projects. Instruments are being made in quantity in the U.S.A., Italy and India



## *Twenty-two thousand telephone calls a week pass through the New Street Exchange*

'I'M AFRAID it's rather noisy in here this morning' said Mrs. Doris Northfield, Supervisor of the New Street telephone exchange. From the long line of switchboard positions came the gentle hum of eleven low-pitched voices and the muffled click of the line plugs. In fact, the only penetrating sound was the rap of a typewriter on the table.

Through this quiet orderly room stream between 10,000 and 11,000 outgoing calls a week, and about 12,000 incoming calls from all over the world. In the mid-Essex and Basildon areas there are nine other Marconi branch exchanges, making thirty-five telephone positions fully operational from eight-fifteen a.m. till five-thirty p.m.

A P.B.X. (Private Branch Exchange) demands more than the standard qualifications of a trained telephonist. An enormous knowledge of the Company, its products, its current orders, its establishments, and its people, has been built up in

# *I'm putting you through*





ABOVE: The switchboard in the full flood of the morning calls. Mrs. Doris Northfield, Supervisor of New Street Exchange, stops to take a query. Sitting slightly back, on training duty, are Maureen O'Grady and Rosemary Wilson.

the head of Miss Gladys Huggins, who was Supervisor of the New Street exchange from the time Head Office moved to Chelmsford at the beginning of the war until the beginning of this year, and is now Chief Supervisor of all the Company's telephone exchanges. She is always training operators to absorb this mental encyclopedia.

Only those who work in a big industry can appreciate the speed with which Company structure can dissolve and re-form almost overnight. Because the enquiries through the Chelmsford switchboard become more varied and technical each year (many of the callers know neither a name nor an extension

BELOW: The 'clerical table', where the records are kept strictly up-to-date. Left to right, telephonists Maria Daley, Mrs. Doreen Pigrem, Sue Ellis, Avril Haydon, Pauline Caley

OPPOSITE, TOP: Assistant Supervisor, New Street Exchange, Mrs. Sylvia Pennington, and, nearest camera, Sue Workman, Mrs. Jean Crane, Mary-Anne Wackett

FAR LEFT: Three telephonists taking their turn at clerical duties: left to right, Mrs. Pam Hopper, Barbara Richer and Doreen Greed

LEFT: Miss Gladys Huggins, Chief Supervisor of the Company's Telephone Exchanges, at one of the 'enquiry desks' where lengthy or technical queries are clarified



# HACKBRIDGE NEWS



## Personality parade

R. C. APPLEFORD, 'Reg' to all at Hackbridge, came to M.W.T. Company in 1952 as an installation engineer in Communications Division engaged on mobile equipment for essential services and public service vehicles. He spent ten years in this capacity, nine of them in the London area where he became well known to many taxi drivers. During this time he took part in the East Coast flood rescue operations, when he issued and instructed on walkie-

talkie to the police; he spent many unearthly hours maintaining communications from a slow-moving weed trawler on the rivers.

In 1962 Reg came to Hackbridge as electronic equipment engineer, and is now Supervisor of Test Equipment Section.

He did his war service in the Royal Air Force as a corporal wireless mechanic for six years, and did a tour of duty in West Africa where he had many flights around the Gold and Ivory Coasts visiting out-of-the way units. Nowadays his pursuits are purely peaceful, and although he takes a great interest in his work and all its allied branches he is also Hon. Treasurer of the Social Club and has served it for five years. He loves gardening takes great pleasure in motoring—he is a veteran motorist of twenty-four-years standing—and with his wife Joyce regularly makes a big effort towards the Works children's party.

## Football section

WE ARE pleased to report that in their second season the Marconi F.C. (Hackbridge) are flourishing and the first team have found winning form. Captained by Dave Riches in 1967, at the end of the year they were top of their table in their division of the Croydon League, and although they were knocked out of the Surrey Junior Cup they were still fighting

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## 'I'm putting you through'—*continued*

and they quote types of equipment or want to contact an engineer with whom they worked on site (three years ago), the New Street exchange has two 'enquiry desks' to which are routed all calls which require special knowledge or will take time to clarify. Overseas and continental calls, including several a week from across the Atlantic, are also booked via these desks, the manning of which is shared between Miss Huggins, Mrs. Doris Northfield and Mrs. Sylvia Pennington, Assistant Supervisor. Much of this expertise is stored in their heads, but it is backed up by a detailed records department, kept up to date by the girls working in turn on their special system of directories.

The Clerical Table, as they call it, is of great importance, and the telephonists take pride in maintaining its accuracy. Even straightforward enquiries are seldom as simple as they seem—'Do you know his initial? I've got eight Williams's in the book'. It needs quick thinking, but then operators are quick thinkers or they wouldn't be there.

'Although we mainly ask for G.P.O.-trained telephonists,' said Miss Huggins, 'we always give them a fortnight's intensive training period. Then we also try to take one or two trainees each year straight from school, and this is proving very worthwhile. All the New Street girls have to be ready to go out to the branches as reliefs for sickness and at holiday times, and I move around the outside establishments several times a week, pooling information and discussing any little problems which may arise. I have regular meetings with Mr. W. E. Eden, Chief of Communications and Housing Group, who keeps us in the picture, and we get all the help and support we need from him and from our Departmental Manager, Mr. L. F. Carter.'

The result of all this is the efficient cheerful service which we in the Company use day after day unthinkingly. Like an intricate piece of machinery, it all runs so smoothly that we never hear the wheels turning.





### Basildon Christmas party

Nearly 400 B.M.C. members and their friends enjoyed the Christmas Dance held at the Locarno Ballroom, Basildon. LEFT: R. A. Coldwell, Basildon Works Manager and B.M.C. President, with Mrs. Coldwell. RIGHT: A cascade of balloons ended a wonderful evening [N. Miller]



in the Croydon League Cup. Hon. Sec. Doug Davies, who gives most of his evenings and weekends to the team, tells us with expert knowledge that the team has a bright future. The second team, under the wing of John Blackwell, Accounts Section, are also having enjoyable games.

### Happy New Year

CLUB CHAIRMAN Ray Hazell and the Committee wish to thank members for their grand support during 1967, and wish everyone a happy 1968.

### Social club

THE RECENT theatre outing to the Victoria Palace for the Black-and-White Minstrel Show was a great success, being supported by 102 members and friends. On the night of our visit there was a special programme to mark the longest run of any musical show ever. Our members thoroughly enjoyed it.

### Charles Etherington

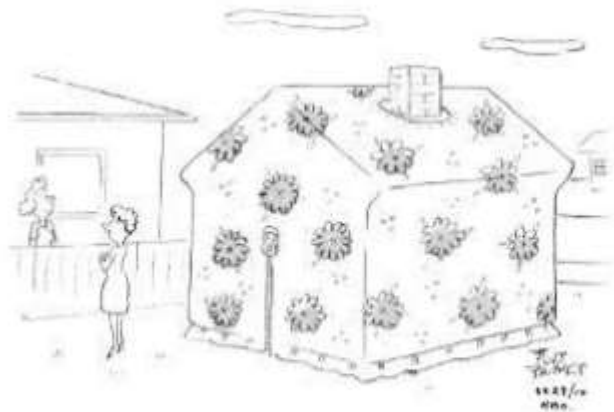
IT IS with great regret that we record the death of Charles Etherington, who in the last few years had done part time work in B Building. Charlie had lived in Park Road for most of his life and knew the district before the Hackbridge Works was built. Everyone knew him. We send our condolences to Mrs. Etherington and her family.

### Mrs. W. V. Young

WE WERE also sorry to hear of the death of Mrs. W. V. Young of Hackbridge, and offer our sincere sympathy to her relatives and friends.

### New son and brother

PETER WHEELER, Automation Design Office, Marrable House, and his wife Sheila, formerly of Aeronautical Division, Basildon, now have another son, Paul Simon, who weighed 7 lb. 12 oz., and John, Mark and Stephen have another brother.



*'We couldn't afford to have it painted, so I made a slip-cover for it'*



**St. Albans**

## Sir Alf Ramsey at M.I.

'Lost games are a part of our education,' said Sir Alf Ramsey, Manager of the England football team, when he spoke at the M.I. canteen to nearly 400 men—and one woman. He was the speaker at a monthly meeting of the Hertfordshire Association of Football Coaches and their guests.

On the stage with Sir Alf were George Clabon, chairman of the M.I. Football Club, and Jeremy Bliss, Manager M.I. Personnel Administration, who were both thanked for making it possible for the canteen and its facilities to be used.

The speech, delivered in a modest yet forthright way to an audience of experts, showed how much trouble is taken to put a winning team on the field, experiments in formation, if wingers should be used or not. He has, for instance, already been to Mexico at the time of year when the World Cup



Sir Alf Ramsey, Manager of the England football team, with J. J. Bliss, Manager M.I. Personnel Administration, when Sir Alf came to speak at the M.I. canteen

*[Herts Advertiser photograph]*

will be played. He found that the heat was tremendous in the middle of the large bowl arena, and a team must be chosen with this in mind. When talking about the team which won the World Cup he said he had never known a crowd of chaps work and train so hard.

Answering questions from the audience, Sir Alf was keen to answer fully. Although he said he did not know the right way to play football he did know it was a man's game, skilful and hard but not dirty. On the other hand he did not hesitate to criticize tackling from the back. The style of his teams was formulated from the players in the team and it was up to him to supply the strongest team possible.

At the end of the meeting Sir Alf was introduced to a number of M.I. players and officials.

### **M.I. football**

Our congratulations to John Smith, of M.I. Football Club, on his selection to play for Hertfordshire against Essex. John joined the club at fifteen, having little previous experience in goal, but with the help of the club in training and coaching as well as his own determination to get on, John went from the 'A' team to the first in his first season. In the first eleven John won his Herts Aubrey Cup-winners' medal with the M.I. F.C. The proud dad is Fred Smith, Stores Controller, a once great free-scoring centre-forward with the club and a former club committee member.

The club's progress in the last few weeks has greatly improved. The first eleven has gained ten points from the last five games, the last of these against our old rivals, London Colney, which we won 2-1, Norman Starkey, Service Division, scoring both goals. The reserves gained a 3-0 victory in the Reserve Cup.

G.W.

### **Nets the ball forty-two times**

Forty-two to twelve goals was the score when M.I. Netball Team won against Rodex. With a third of the season gone only two games have been played, both of them won, the other five games had to be cancelled owing to rain.

Last year the M.I. team were in the first division of the St. Albans and District Netball League but owing to lack of players they are now in the second division. However, they have their own court at the Cotlandswick Sports Ground and reckon, weather permitting, also to have a good few enjoyable games around the district.

Now that Mrs. Shirley Roffey is no longer at M.I.,



Pat Murray, team treasurer, is the member to contact if you would like to play. She works in Components Test and will be pleased to hear from you.

### Rifle club

Negotiations are under way to form an M.I. Rifle Club. The Ballito Works, before they closed, had a well-known rifle club and some of its members have joined with M.I. people. Although the Ballito range cannot be used, outdoor shooting has continued at Wheathampstead and efforts are being made to find another indoor range which will receive the necessary police and army approval, and be recognized by the National Small Bore Rifle Association. There are many safety restrictions on opening a rifle range.

In spite of rain and frost the red flag has been hoisted at the Wheathampstead range, which is a quarry-like place in the side of a hill. At night, shooting has been carried on by the aid of a spot lamp. During winter's bad conditions shooting is from 25 yards where the targets, ten to a card, are only 2 inches in diameter and the bulls little larger than a pin head. In summer the 100- and 500-yard ranges are used.

Committee of the proposed club: John Murray, chairman; Roy Attenborough, secretary; and Roy Duckworth, all of M.I. Engineering.

The M.I. Cine Enthusiasts have been going round the Works on Saturday mornings to film, in colour and with sound, nine of the special purpose machines in use, among which were tape-controlled drilling machines, automatic capstans and wire-dipping machines. This particular machine is the wire stripper, operated by Mrs. E. Fordham, Accessories Group, who is, by the way, Shop Steward for Feeder Units 2 and 3

Shooting by night at the Wheathampstead rifle range, left to right: Brian Hartley, ex Ballito, Keith Shambrook, ex M.I., and M.I. Engineering Roy Attenborough, Roy Duckworth and John Murray





## Chelmsford

### Sailing

The end of the season brought victory to Linda Partlett in the Ladies Cup, sailed in near gale force conditions.

Richard and Charles Houlding in a Hornet won the Mud Trophy, an interesting race in which competitors could choose to sail either way round Osea Island. John and Susan Tillotson, also in a Hornet, came second, and Ken and Avril Stevens, in their catamaran, third.

The Helmsman of the Year Trophy should have been sailed for in early September, but strong winds only allowed two of the five scheduled races to be held. The remaining three were sailed towards the end of October in a rather light wind, that dropped away to nothing at the end of the final race. Brian Partridge, first, with Stan Adamson won two races and came second in another. Geoff White, second, with Peter Jennings; Richard Houlding, third, with brother Charles; and Simon Darney with Jane Cottam; all won one race each. A total of twenty boats entered on the second day, a worthy entry for our main trophy.



Trophies at the Sailing Club's Laying-up Supper were presented by Mrs. Lucy Payne, wife of vice-president and founder-member Eric Payne, and here Linda Partlett receives the Lady's Cup. Also in the picture are Jack Bigden, commodore, left, who's son Timothy won the Cadet Race Cup, and John Witter, sailing secretary

Dancing at the Heybridge Country Club and really enjoying themselves are Margery and Stan Allerton, left, and Jack and Connie Bigden. Jack is commodore and Stan vice-commodore of the Sailing Club



After coffee and between toasts at the Heybridge Country Club are, left to right and facing the camera, Nick Benwell, Mrs. Robina Boswell, Eddie Edwards and Mrs. Eleanor Witter, magazine correspondent. In the foreground are Mrs. Margery Edwards and John Witter. Cruiser members and friends are at the table behind and the top table is just in front of the M.C.

The Palmer sisters presenting posies. Mrs. Payne receives one from Ann, left, and Mrs. Connie Bigden one from Susan. Ann won the prize for the best crew

Ann Palmer crewed for her father, Norman, in the nine races he won during the season and for this she won the Mug's Mug.

The Garrett Memorial Trophy for the best cadet, junior member under eighteen years, was awarded to John Gaskell.

Prizes for these races, and also for those sailed earlier in the season, were presented by Mrs. Lucy Payne, wife of our vice-president, and founder-member Eric Payne, at the Laying-up Supper, one of the best ever, held at the Heybridge Country Club in November.

November brought the Annual General Meeting, and most of the Club's senior officers remain the same—Jack Bigden, commodore; Stan Allerton, vice-commodore; Nick Tovey, rear-commodore; Dave Polley, treasurer; Cyril Drakeford, clubhouse secretary. New to the committee are Ken Monger, secretary; Peter Batey, sailing secretary; Mick Turner, social secretary, and Brian Martin, cadet skipper.

An interesting lecture on the Battle of Trafalgar by Mr. Jack Mills of Maldon Little Ship Club is scheduled for Friday, 26 January.

## Wine guild

In November, representatives from a firm of wine-shippers in Norwich, brought six types of wine for tasting, and these were—Piesporter Kellerprinz, a Moselle wine; Liebfraumilch Liebeslied, a Rhine-hessian; Chablis, a white Burgundy; Rose d'Anjou, a wine from the valley of the Loire; Chateau Maleret, a Bordeaux Superieure, and Fleurie 'La Madone', a red Burgundy.

The sales manager, Mr. D. W. Ramsbottom, was introduced to the assembled members and he explained that the purpose of the meeting was to form a commercial wine club which would make available to members quality wines at reduced prices. He then briefly covered the regions of Europe from which his firm obtains their wines.

After the talk Mr. Ramsbottom, and Mr. E. W. H. Nathan, of the same company, discussed each wine as it was sampled.

The last meeting for the 1967 session held on the



following Friday took the form of a quiz and was conducted by Lou Argent, who had prepared a number of questions. But, as only thirteen members attended, the evening was disappointing although enjoyable.

The Annual General Meeting takes place on Friday, 19 January in the Club hall, Beehive Lane, at 8 o'clock prompt. All interested in making home-made wines are urged to attend this meeting as, if there is not sufficient support, it may be necessary to suspend the Guild.

## Bowls

The Annual General Meeting was held in November. R. Garwood, L. Gurney and K. Collins were re-elected as chairman, captain, and treasurer, respectively, and H. Abbott has taken over as secretary.

The committee once again appeals to members to give more support to the section, especially in respect of friendly and Chelmsford and District games, so that a really successful season can be looked forward to in 1968.

## Billiards and snooker

Congratulations to our team for their fine effort in surmounting the first hurdle in Player's No. 6 All England Tournament, disposing of the United Services Club from Harwich 3-0, and also in beating Tilbury Dock Working Men's Club 3-1 in the next round, but, unfortunately, in the Essex area semi-finals against Purfleet Working Men's Club we lost 3-1.

Departmental league games are running smoothly but the knock-out is a little behind schedule.

## Golf

The season's last competition took place at Braxted Park at the beginning of September and, although sixteen acceptances were received, only six members turned up to play for the Clarke Tankard, most disappointing. It was won by T. Caldwell playing off 24 with a nett 67.

A return match with Maldon G.C. at Maldon consisted of eight four ball games and we regret to say that they won by 7-1. However, as all our members are aware, it is always a great pleasure to play at Maldon, whether the result is favourable or not. The hospitality is first-class and we hope these fixtures will long continue.

We are constantly receiving enquiries from newcomers to the Company about membership of the Golfing Society. We would like to stress that

Archery Section members checking scores at Beehive Lane during their Sunday morning practice. Left to right, Mervyn Hart, Peter Leach, Clinton Cast, Derek Cast, secretary; and Michael Webber



we are not in a position to get them membership of a golf club or arrange tuition, nor do we supply golf clubs. For anyone who is interested in taking up golf, some clubs are offering five or six-day memberships. Of course, anyone accepting this will qualify for full membership after maybe two to three years, but this waiting period may get shorter in the very near future due, no doubt, in no small measure to recent Government legislation, which will affect the social habits of everyone in the country.

We wish you well in your club competitions and expect you will all keep swinging until we start our season in March/April.

## Archery

The Marconi-English Electric Archers entered the English Electric Combine Postal League, and after much practice were rather unfortunate to finish fifth out of the six teams competing. There is hope of bettering this performance next season, as we have several new enthusiastic members who should show great improvement.

The section has joined both the indoor and outdoor sections of the 'British Archer' League. This competition started in November and is now in full flight.

## Ten-pin bowling

With the first half of the season passed, the league tables are recording several notable points.

In the first division, Central Division B lead the tables, with Stores in second place, Central Division A are in with a chance at third place, and whilst mentioning them, Stan Fish, one of the team members whose photograph appeared in the December magazine, still holds the highest individual pinfall in any one game with that astounding 235.

In the second-division tables, at the time of issuing this summary, the league leadership could go to either M.I.M.C., the present holders, or E.E.V. in second place, each having one more match, so tension should be at its peak for this event.

In the third-division league tables S Group B are ahead, closely followed by Elettra. Players have made an excellent performance for their first season, and many look like attaining averages which will be envied by some of our more established members if they continue at their present pace.

The annual prize-giving and dance is being held at the Beehive Lane Social Club on 24 May. The committee members have unanimously agreed to book the South Sea Serenaders once again, as they were such a success last year, and also the same



P. Roberts in possession, E. Mee running clear anticipating a through pass

M.C. Tickets, slightly more expensive than last time because of extra trophies, etc., required for third-division prizes, will be on sale in early February—members 5s., guests 10s.—obtainable from secretary A. Warren, S Group, Widford, or any committee member: Ted Kosyulinski, Finished Part Stores; Ken Bailey, R. & D. Workshops; Mike Downes, Receiving Stores Inspection; or Jack Day, Broadcasting Division, all at New Street, also Gordon Townsend, Central Division, Waterhouse Lane.

## Hockey

The hockey calendar has reached the half-way stage, and the section can look back on a satisfactory 'first half'.

The men's team have won their last three consecutive games, the men's second eleven are holding their own, and the two Sunday mixed teams are proving themselves formidable opponents.

The ladies are continuing to enjoy a fairly successful season, although fixtures on two successive weeks were cancelled due to torrential rain spoiling the pitch, and have won five out of seven matches. In these there was a real feast of goals with thirty-five scored by Marconi ladies against eleven by our opponents. Leading goal scorer is Madge Knight, with twenty-one by the end of November. Ten of

these were scored in the match against E.C.C., which Marconi's won 13-1.

The section is now looking forward to the annual seven-a-side mixed hockey tournament, which has become very popular for South-east hockey enthusiasts with teams coming from as far as Loughborough and Kent.

The Border League team, including substitute player, before the game versus Port of London Authority in the Essex Intermediate Cup first round. Back row, left to right, D. Carver, trainer; R. Dixon, T. Meredith, A. Stripling, M. Golding, R. Gowers, W. Lodge, E. Gowers, A. J. Rogie, chairman. Front row, P. Roberts, D. Harper, E. Milburn, E. Mee, C. McLean



# WITH BEST WISHES...



**CENTRE:** The customary presentation took place when radar engineer Don Reed was about to be married, and H. J. Lawrence, Manager, Field Services, Radar Division, Church Green, gave him a cheque from his friends and colleagues. For about five months in 1966 Don was on Ascension Island, and returned home just over a year ago. **RIGHT:** To mark the occasion of her marriage Maureen Quinn's friends gave her a cheque, and G. Root, Foreman, Work in Progress Stores, made the presentation. Maureen has been with the Company for five years.



**LEFT:** Scales, both bathroom and kitchen, were the wedding gifts for Jack Ausano, M.I. Marking Group, and D. Kensett, Group Manager, made the presentation on behalf of his friends. **CENTRE:** Friends of June Cottis gave her a Pyrex dinner-service when she married, and R. Allen, Foreman, Printed Boards Section, made the presentation on their behalf. **RIGHT:** Retiring after thirteen years, time-clerk, Arthur Courtney-Jones could not get away from time, he received a time-piece, together with a set of door chimes and cheque from his friends before he left, and R. Bernhardt, Superintendent, Baddow Workshops, made the presentation.



**LEFT:** For exactly thirty years C. C. 'Monty' Montieith was in the Company and when he left the district, colleagues gave him a trolley and set of crystal tumblers, presented at Marrable House on their behalf by W. V. Barbone, Technical Manager, Space Communications Division. **CENTRE:** Leaving Gateshead to take up an appointment in Radar Division, H. Elliott, former Sports and Social Club chairman, was presented with an oil-filled electric radiator by R. Sherwin, Works Manager, on behalf of colleagues and S.S.C. members [J. Wales]. **RIGHT:** Best wishes from Test Department, Wembley, were given to Jerry Fawkes when he married, and M. Lacey, Section Leader, was on hand to present a canteen of cutlery [H. Povey].





LEFT: 'Twenty-one today' was Pauline Harding so her friends of the M.I. Accessories Group gave her an umbrella and handbag which were presented by R. Cross, chargehand. CENTRE: A pram set for Mrs. Doris Henry from friends at Wembley was presented on their behalf by J. Ackerman, Chargehand, Coil-winding Department [H. Povey]. RIGHT: Leaving Production Control, Wembley, to live in Basildon, Ken Hewitt received a lighter as a farewell gift from his friends [N. Butterworth]



LEFT: On leaving the Company after five years, Pat Lee was given a string of pearls and cosmetics from her friends, and G. Boughton Chief of Test, Beehive Lane, made the presentation [G. Margatroyd]. CENTRE: Because of moving from the district Kitty Clarke has said farewell to Basildon after four years, but before she did so G. E. Griffiths, Work Study Controller, presented a housecoat on behalf of her friends [G. Hoare]. RIGHT: Stan Slevin, Chief of Sales and Contracts Section, Central Division, Waterhouse Lane, has left the Company after thirty years, and before he did so P. J. Donnelly, Manager, handed over luggage and an umbrella as mementoes from his friends and colleagues



LEFT: Friends had Mrs. Jenny Horrex's own particular happiness in mind when they bought her a sleeping bag, shawl and other gifts before she left the Company after ten years, and P. Crisp, Works Accountant, officiated on their behalf. CENTRE: Before Dave Brooks, Group Leader, Hire Power Engineering, left the Company after fifteen years, friends gave him a cheque to use for a telephone seat, and in charge of proceedings was E. F. Cranston, Technical Manager, Radio Communications Division. RIGHT: Wedding gifts for Gerald Baylis, Assistant Works Accountant, Wembley, included a Black and Decker drill and garden tools, indicating a busy time ahead, and J. S. Mitchell, Works Accountant, made the presentation on behalf of his friends [N. Butterworth]



LEFT: Friends of Terry Dagnall, a well-known member of Hackbridge through ten-pin bowling and ice-skating activities, also road safety competition successes, gave him a car-thief alarm for his Mini when he left the Company, and L. Hurd, Chief of Test, made the presentation [J. Buckland]. CENTRE: Maurice Fuller, left, Group 827, has emigrated to Canada after eight years at M.I., and his friends gave him a best-wishes cheque which was presented by J. Shervill, Group Manager. RIGHT: Gifts which included a carry-cot were presented to Mrs. Margaret Jarvis before she left Works Accounts after nine years, and master of ceremonies on this occasion was R. G. Mitchell, Assistant Works Accountant



LEFT: This presentation took place at St. Mary's House, when Patrick Byrne was given cutlery from his friends and colleagues by C. Griffiths, Supervisor, Productivity Studies, R. & D. Workshops, before he married Daphne Welham, Computer Division, Baddow. CENTRE: Leaving the Company for a very special reason, Mrs. Susan Smythe, secretary to Dr. T. W. Straker, General Manager, Telecommunications, was presented by him with cot-blankets and sheets, an electric kettle and teddy bear from her friends. Husband, Norman, is in T.I.D., Central Division, Broomfield Road. RIGHT: L. 'Paddy' Timmons, Goods Inwards and Stores Router, was returning to the north so his friends gave him a lighter, refill and cigarettes, which were presented by F. Smith, M.I. Stores Controller



LEFT: When Mrs. Elsie Pickess left Cableform Section, Beehive Lane, to adopt a baby, C. Stoneham, Senior Foreman, presented numerous gifts on behalf of her friends [G. Murgatroyd]. CENTRE: Amongst the gifts which Mrs. Hazel Manville received when she left the Company after twelve years was a cot from her friends and colleagues, presented by G. Banford on behalf of K. Hughes, Chief Draughtsman, T.I.D., Central Division, Baddow. Husband Rex is with Automation Division at Marrable House. RIGHT: Electrical gifts and a travelling clock were presented to Brian Cole, E Building Inspection and Test, when he left the Company after five years, by L. Ford, Deputy Chief Inspector, right, on behalf of all friends at Basildon [G. Hoare]

# Bigger and better

THE RECIPE for the M.I. Children's Christmas Party was—bigger and better. Three-hundred and sixty-five M.I. children between the ages of four and nine attended, with six kiddies from the Harpenden National Children's Home. The newly painted canteen with its decorations and large tree was a colourful setting for a jolly party.

Festivities commenced with the Accordionaires—nine girls and a boy—and the children's singing was loud and lusty, even *Silent Night*. The party was in high spirits throughout the afternoon due to the activities of clowns Smartie Artie, Bashful Bill, Soppy Sid and newcomer Uncle Jock. Arthur Adolph, Bill Walker, Sid Beck and Jock Ferguson came up with some new acts which kept the children—and even the helpers—in stitches. To their delight Sid, as usual, received most of the shaving soap and water.

In the interval Norman White of the M.I. Cine Enthusiasts showed cartoon films.

Tea, provided by Canteen Manager Harold Squires and his helpers, was a feast of good things which disappeared with speed. Harold has been organizing the food at these parties for many years.

The climax of the party came with the spotlighted appearance of Father Christmas (Reg Collins) as he approached across the lawn. The children clustered round the tree and the serious business of handing out the presents began. Among these were battery-driven cars, work-boxes and dart-boards.

When the parents had collected their children, the helpers, whom we should congratulate once again for running a magnificent party, were able to get on quietly with the clearing up. 'Anyone got an aspirin?'

TOP, RIGHT: 'And what do you want me to bring?' Father Christmas and some of the 365 children at the M.I. party

CENTRE, RIGHT: Slosh goes the shaving cream when Jock Ferguson, Sid Beck and Arthur Adolph go into action at the party, and how the children love it

BOTTOM, RIGHT: Anticipation and joy when the clowns entertain at the M.I. children's party

## Outside back cover

The Langdale Pikes in the Lake District National Park, from the pool near Neaum Crag House. There is a caravan park and camp site here

[Central Office of Information]



