

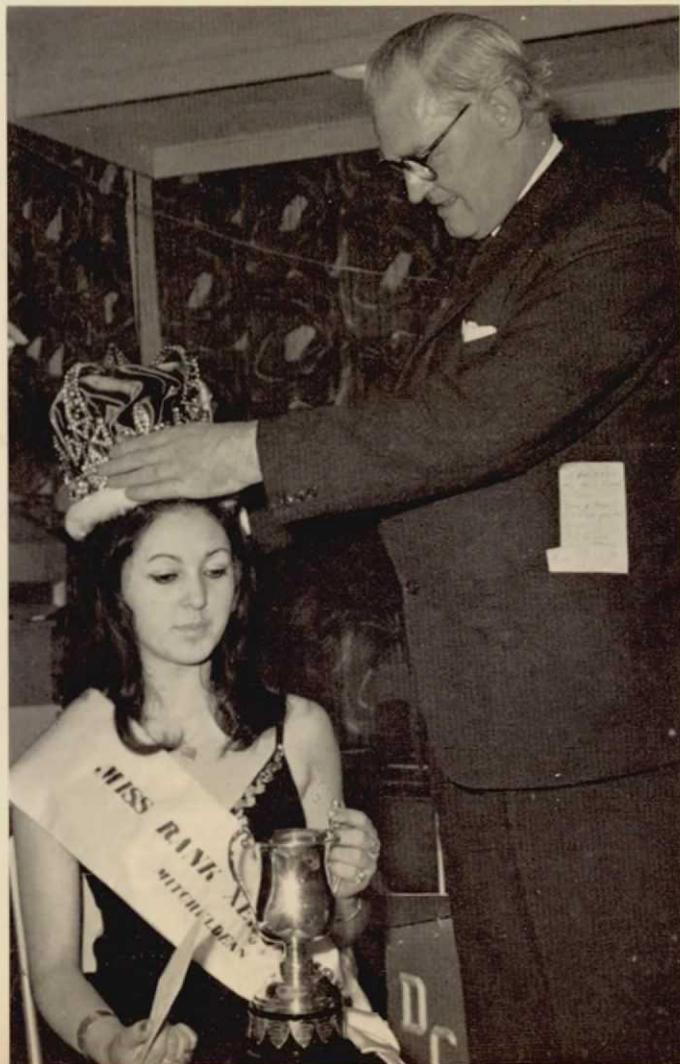
Vision

Jan/Feb 69

No 53



House Magazine of Rank Xerox Mitcheldean Plant



Performing a pleasant service for his constituents — Mr. Charles Loughlin, MP for West Gloucestershire, crowns 16-year-old Jeanette Madden 'Miss Rank Xerox, Mitcheldean' for 1968/69. He was fulfilling one of his first engagements following his appointment as Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Public Buildings and Works.

Jeanette, who is a clerk/typist in the Supply Planning Department, won £10 plus a two-day trip to London for herself and a friend, staying overnight at the Royal Lancaster Hotel. Highlights of the trip included attending the world premiere of the film 'Chitty Chitty Bang Bang' at the Odeon cinema, Leicester Square (see page 10).



Mr. F. E. Oldfield, the industrial consultant, who is located in Mr. Hotchen's former office in Building 23.

Improving our Productivity

We all want job satisfaction. Most of us would like bigger pay packets. We want to work for a company that has a future.

The price is improved productivity. We must produce more at lower cost, eliminate waste of every kind, and continually look for ways and means of improving our efficiency on the shop floor and in the office.

This can only be achieved if we work together. That is why we have mounted a productivity campaign at Mitcheldean under the leadership of Mr. F. E. Oldfield, the industrial consultant. His programme of activity started on Monday, November 4.

I want you to know that, before the programme was launched, it was agreed in principle by Trades Union officials, Works representatives, Supervision, and Management. Both Mr. Oldfield and I insisted on this before he would undertake it and I would approve it.

You might ask: 'Why employ a consultant?' A good question. Consultants are not cheap. The answer is two-fold. First, Rank Xerox is going through a phenomenal growth period, and we have our work cut out to meet our customers' demands.

Second, this is a very specialised exercise and we need a specialist to plan it and guide us through it. Mr. Oldfield has been an industrial consultant for over 30 years. He is thoroughly experienced and a man capable of understanding and talking to people at all levels. You and I are paying for his services. It will be our fault if we do not get our money's worth.

You might say to yourselves: 'We are always being asked to produce more, and the only result seems to be that our money buys less, our taxes go up and we seem to be running harder to stay in the same place. Is it worth it?'

We know that the national economy is shaky and the adverse trading balance acute. To improve productivity is the only thing we can do to arrest the decline.

Increased productivity does not necessarily mean more physical effort. Work smarter — not harder. If you want to know more about it, ask your Supervisor or, better still, Fred Oldfield.

We at Rank Xerox, Mitcheldean, have every right to be proud of our contribution to the national overseas balance of payments. If anyone should ask, tell them: 'Last year, Rank Xerox revenue was over £84 million and 73 per cent of that, i.e. £73 out of every £100, was earned in overseas territories.' Tell them also that nearly all the products from which that revenue was derived were produced at Mitcheldean.

Who will immediately benefit from improved productivity? Certainly the shareholders. They risked their savings in the Xerographic experiment. Without their investment there would be no Rank Xerox. It is up to us to see that they get a reasonable return on their risk and investment.

As for us, we have invested our skills and labour in Rank Xerox and we also are entitled to a reasonable return. It is up to us. By improving our productivity, we can be sure of getting it. Let's get cracking.

Director of Production and Supply Operations.

DESIGN OPEN DAY



From all reports, the opening of the Design Department by Mr. A. S. Pratt, Chief Engineer of Rank Xerox Ltd., so that employees could bring their families along, was a huge success. The 350 adults and 100 children who turned up on the afternoon of Saturday, October 19, were provided with a programme which showed what was on view and where.

This included the Design Laboratory (development of various models); Draughting & Records (demonstration of 3600 & sorter); Print Room (1824, 1860 and dye-line printers in operation); Data Processing Department (demonstration of Type 1000 Printer and associated equipment); Development Laboratory (methods of colour measurement; the use of micro-electronics, motor testing and Xerographics); Reliability Laboratory (component and machine testing; display of faulty components); Model Shop (display of machine tools).

After inspecting what may justifiably be described as one of the most advanced engineering facilities in the country, the visitors enjoyed light refreshments.



Stuart Harrold explains the working of a 3600 in the Design Laboratory, while procurement engineer John Turner's son takes a look for himself!



In the Draughting & Records section, Marilyn Phelps shows what the 3600 and sorter can do.

Rank Xerox Managers visit

Some 50 Rank Xerox UK branch managers and branch services managers visited Mitcheldean on November 21. After seeing a PERT demonstration given by Mr. K. Boyd in the Social Centre, they toured the Plant in eight parties, escorted by Messrs. D. R. Elliott, V. G. Parry, R. W. Mason, K. Boyd, S. J. Scott, E. G. Elliott, E. Watkins and L. Laken. Pictured right: Mr. Watkins' party have the functions of a Rotab rotary inclinable table explained to them by Standards Room inspector George Brooks.



Following the Company's decision to set up a Reconditioning Centre at the Sydney National Workshops to cover the Far Eastern hemisphere, reconditioning engineer Don Presdee went to Australia last August for some ten weeks to give help and advice in the setting up and operation of such a centre.

Now back from spring 'down under' to winter at Mitcheldean, Don had the following to say about his assignment:

My journey out to Australia was not by the usual scheduled air flight; instead, I was the only passenger on a Rank Xerox charter cargo flight, carrying the tools and spare parts for the job in hand. This being so, I virtually had access to the whole aircraft and was treated as a member of the aircrew.

Some three and a half days after take-off we arrived in Sydney feeling a little tired (I had made fruitless attempts at trying to sleep on top of a

720 copier!), but pleased to be met by representatives from the Australian company.

The operation being carried out by the latter is of an identical nature to, but on a smaller scale than, that at the Mitcheldean and Venray centres, and the end product is to the same standard of a new machine.

The service is designed to cater for other Rank Xerox operating companies in this part of the world — namely, those in Malaysia, Singapore, Hong Kong and New Zealand — and in order to meet their commitments, two production lines, similar to those at Mitcheldean, have been set up to deal with 660 and 720 copiers.

Because of the small scale of this programme, compromises have had to be made with the type of plant and services required, but, thanks to typical Australian ingenuity, the two production lines are now working and by October last, 720 and 660 copiers had already been assembled and installed

in the field, giving very satisfactory performances. The National Workshops engineers are by no means unfamiliar with work of this nature: only recently they reconditioned a quantity of 914 copiers for export to New Zealand and they felt very pleased with the result of their efforts after receiving a complimentary report from the New Zealand Technical Service Manager, Mr. David MacDonald. The latter paid a visit to the Sydney Workshops during my visit there, and he asked me to pass on his best regards to the Mitcheldean people he worked with during the BAF and early 914 days.

I met two other ex-Mitcheldean workers while at the National Workshops — Terry Hemms and his wife, who emigrated to Australia last July. They too wish to be remembered to all their friends at the Mitcheldean Plant.

There is a large percentage of English migrants working at the National Workshops. Some of them have been out in Australia for a considerable

number of years, have lost their local English dialects and call other Englishmen 'Pommies'! But they still have a yearning to spend a holiday in England and they ask if the English weather has improved!

Weather is something of which a newcomer to Australia is very conscious; springtime in Sydney is the time of year when male workers, young and old alike, are just starting to wear summer shorts to work.

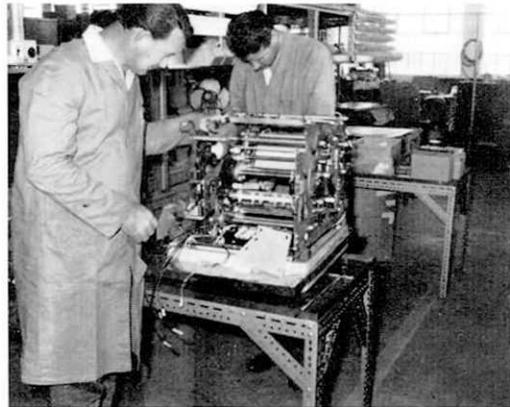
The delightful weather turns one's thoughts seawards, and there are no less than 67 beautiful beaches to choose from within easy reach of Sydney. When I left Australia, my job completed, the temperature was already in the nineties.

The Australian company will, I feel sure, make a success of the current operation. They extend their sincere thanks and good wishes to their English counterparts for the assistance they have so far received.

Reconditioning Down Under



General view of the 914 reconditioning and 720 remodelling lines.



Setting station on the 660 remodelling line.



Two English migrants from Sheffield and Merthyr Tydfil working on the 720 remodelling line.



This Australian on the 660 remodelling line is dressed in typical summer working clothes.

Meeting in Spain

Mr. V. G. Parry, Inspection and Quality Control Manager, paid a visit to Spain from September 16 to 20 to attend the 12th European Organisation for Quality Control Conference, held at Madrid University, and at the same time liaise with Rank Xerox Spain.

The conference attracted around 650 delegates representing some 26 different countries, and understandably the strongest contingent was the Spanish one. There were delegates from a number of Iron Curtain countries, including 22 from Czechoslovakia; this might be thought a high figure in view of their recent troubles, but it was possibly due to the fact that the 1969 conference is scheduled to be held in Prague.

Mr. Parry, who was accompanied by Mr. W. Thoday from Denham and Mr. Jan Bosje from Venray, heard 19 papers presented on various aspects of quality control (there was simultaneous translation into English, French, German and Spanish).

Apart from the subjects discussed at the conference, the occasion provided a valuable opportunity to meet senior personnel from a wide range of companies from other parts of the world and, said Mr. Parry, one couldn't help being impressed by the widespread acquaintance with Rank Xerox products throughout the countries represented.

Left to right: Mr. W. Thoday (Denham), Mr. V. G. Parry and Mr. Jan Bosje of Venray with the conference copier.



Turn right at the copier!

A notable 'delegate' to the conference was a 3600 machine which the Madrid offices of Rank Xerox Spain had installed at the University to offer free copy service to those present. Both the service and the machine aroused tremendous interest throughout the whole of the conference and the latter was continually surrounded by delegates.

It also served another somewhat unintentional service: towards the end of the conference, the chairmen at the meetings were giving direction instructions to delegates by reference to the position of the copier!



LETTER

What do we get out of the LSA?

This is a question which often arises when committee members come face to face with other members, especially when a collection is necessary for someone who is due to retire after many years of faithful service to the Company and the association. 'We pay our shilling every week' is a remark frequently made, and of course this is true.

Those of you who never come to the annual general meeting cannot hope to know the answer, although it is very simple. From your annual subscription of £2 12s 0d, £1 is put to your credit and is known as entitlement payable when you leave the employment of the Company for any reason.

Furthermore, if you enjoy social events (and two are arranged each year — the annual dinner and the Christmas social), these are both free and available to every member.

If you do not care for this sort of thing, the answer becomes much more simple because, apart from the entitlement, the answer is nothing, unless — and that is the crucial word — *unless* the need arises.

Ask any member who has been unfortunate enough to suffer a long spell away from work owing to illness, or any other misfortune outside

their control, and they will tell you that the LSA can be and are very helpful and generous when the need arises.

So if you happen to be one of the lucky ones and you go through to retirement without ever having occasion to know what you get out of the LSA, you can be thankful, for you will then be able to enjoy the social events and annual outing organised by the Association for such as you.

E. George Jones (Repair and Maintenance), who retired in November after 20 years' service, was presented with a transistor radio by LSA vice-chairman Bob Baker on behalf of the association. Watching are committee member Kate Matthews, secretary Doris Barker and chairman Henry Phillips. Two other LSA members, Colin Weaver (3600 Assembly) and F. Howard Meek (Paint Shop), whose retirement before Christmas was reported last issue, chose fireside chairs for their leaving gift from the LSA.



Gratefully received

The LSA sent £5 at Christmas to each of the five retired members who are not in receipt of any remuneration from the Company.

The Sports & Social Club once again donated £15 towards the Mitcheldean Old People's Christmas Party.

The collection at our Plant raised the sum of £38 5s. 8d. reports Poppy Day organiser, Mrs. Sadie Pritchard, who is chairman of the women's section of the British Legion, Mitcheldean and Abenhall. She asks us to pass on her thanks to all who kindly donated.

The Muscular Dystrophy Group of Gt. Britain was the charity which benefited from the concert given jointly by Drybrook & District Prize Silver Band and Drybrook & District Male Voice Choir at our Plant last October; the sum of £15 was forwarded to the Group by the Sports & Social Club who organised the event.

Keeping Cheerful

'A few members have been bitten by the 'flu bug,' reported Doris Barker as we went to press, 'but although the sick list has been short we still have a few members who have had very long spells of illness. Neville Barnett, Ted Bayman, Arthur Bevan and Ted Vallance all keep very cheerful despite slight setbacks, and are ever hopeful of a speedy return to work.'

Richard (Dick) Payne, who has been on the sick list for the last five years, retires at the end of January and we wish him all the best.

Three Cheers for Bill

The affection with which Bill Stearn, Training School instructor, was regarded was plain to see — and hear — in the Social Centre on November 29. The occasion was a dinner and social evening, arranged by Rank Xerox apprentices in appreciation of his tuition and guidance, and marking his retirement after 31 years' service with the Company.

Speaking of his past work, Mr. Wickstead said: 'He is the finest instrument engineer it has ever been my pleasure to meet.'

A measure of his skill, and his ability to pass on such skill to a younger generation, was displayed in a miniature dividing head, made specially by Training School boys and presented to Bill by Mr. Wickstead. For Mrs. Stearn, there was a beautiful bouquet which was presented to her by Mrs. Wickstead.

Obviously moved, Bill said that his years in the School had been the best period of his working life, and he modestly expressed the hope that he had been 'of help to some of you lads'. Led by Roger Trigg, chairman of the Apprentice Committee, the 'lads' gave three hearty cheers for Bill and his wife.

The event was arranged by apprentices Stuart Barnes, Richard Cooke, Kevin Howells, Peter Jennings, Richard Morgan and David Woods. As a memento of the occasion, Bill took away with him one of the menu cards which featured his portrait on the cover and bore the signatures of around 100 apprentices, ex-apprentices and colleagues.

● In all his years with the Company, Bill Stearn was never once known to arrive late for work!

Mr. Wickstead presents Bill with the miniature dividing head made for him by the apprentices.



West of England Winners

Mitcheldean apprentices made a pretty impressive showing in the 1968 Apprentice Competition of the Engineering Employers' West of England Association.

Competing against lads from companies in an area stretching from Worcestershire to Devon, second-year apprentices Ian Hale and Andrew Phillips have walked off with joint first prize in the junior grade of the Machining/Fitting Class, Craft Section, while fourth-year apprentice Richard Morgan, who two years ago obtained second prize in the junior grade, has this time won second prize in the senior grade. David Hart came fourth and Roger Trigg fifth in this latter grade.

Only last issue Ian and Andrew hit the headlines with their awards in the Craftsmanship Competition held by the Gloucestershire & South Worcestershire Productivity Association.

In the junior grade, competitors had to do two test pieces, involving turning and milling, fitting and general machining, within a total time of 40 hours; senior grade competitors had the same length of time in which to complete a test piece involving fitting, turning, milling and grinding.

Bill with some of the boys, among them winners in the Engineering Employers' West of England Association competition — (left to right) David Hart, Richard Cooke, Andrew Phillips, Ian Hale, Roger Trigg and Richard Morgan. Far left can be seen part of an exhibition of work done by, and awards won by, Training School apprentices.



Everyone gets invited to a sauna in Finland, whether friend or adversary. Warmth of friendship is enhanced by it, and hostility melts in the steam (well, could *you* maintain pompous dignity in your birthday suit?) Politicians puzzle out problems, business deals are concluded — in fact, had its congenial atmosphere proved suitable, the sauna would possibly have been the scene of many a copier demonstration!

Now the taking of sauna baths is looked upon by some Englishmen as a cross between black magic and a bit of a giggle. As far as the magic bit is concerned, it is true that in olden times people believed in sauna spirits and the first bath shift was for the men, the second for the womenfolk, and the third reserved for the fairy folk!

Today some aura of magic still persists and even stiff upper-lipped Englishmen, having once 'taken the plunge', have been bewitched into becoming life-long devotees.

As for the giggle, this is probably because the sauna involves bathing in the nude; but after all, the chief aim in the sauna is to bring on a good sweat, and to do this while even partly clothed would be uncomfortable to say the least.

Since it is all part of the Finnish tradition of hospitality, the three men from Mitcheldean who went to Helsinki last August were naturally invited to join in a sauna one evening when they visited the summer residence of Mr. P. Peuranheimo, Field Sales Manager, Rank Xerox Finland.

This proved to be a beautiful bungalow set in a pine forest on the outskirts of Helsinki. Frank Bayliss (Manufacturing Inspection) decided to sit the sauna out, but Geoff Cornwall (Reconditioning) and Des Hanman (Machine Shop), having boosted their courage with a few beers, were ready to give it a try. After all, they reasoned, people of all ages in Finland, from babies to grandpas, seem to thrive on the custom, and it certainly does wonders for the complexion. 'We never once saw a pimply Finn,' said Des.

The bath house consisted of a single unpainted room with wooden duckboard-type seating and flooring. Humidity was increased by ladling water on to the hot stones, or *kiuas*, and in this way the temperature was built up to about 80°F. Some 20 minutes of this and they could stand it no longer! They escaped into an adjoining dressing-room, had a sponge-down with warm water and dressed.

Of course, to do the thing properly they should have rolled in the snow or jumped into an icy lake after the sauna, but according to Des and Geoff, neither was handy at the time!

It is the post-bath feeling of contentment that most sauna bathers find so enjoyable. 'It was a wonderful experience, I wouldn't have missed it for worlds!' Des said afterwards. 'It makes you feel extraordinarily weightless'.

Traditionally a supper follows the sauna and, since the body loses a good deal of salts through sweating, such suppers usually include something salty. On this occasion the supper consisted of crayfish, and sausages cooked on sticks in front of the fire.

Just in case their Mitcheldean colleagues should prove sceptical, Des and Geoff each brought back with them a certificate worded as follows:

The Order of the Bath/Sauna-Seura
Know ye all engineers of hot water
and devilish devices:

This is to Certify
to all of volcanic origin

that in the flames, steam and glowing atmosphere
of Arctic Finland, our Clean-Living Friend,
naked and unashamed, has been approved as a
Knight of the Sauna

at Sommaro by the frozen shores of Helsinki
having observed the Ritual of Ordeal
by Steam and Duly been Boiled Alive
in all modesty and honour.

The certificates were signed by several dignitaries, one of which caught our attention — that of the Lady of the Bath by whom it was stated they had been 'washed in all thoroughness'.

This statement, we discovered, was to be taken with a pinch of salt. Lady attendants are only to be found in hotels, clubs and public saunas. In general they prove to be robust, elderly females who are ruthless about scrubbing behind your ears and between your toes!

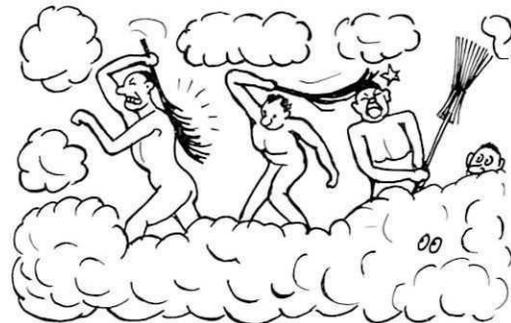
Still think it's a bit of a giggle?

SAUNA STORY

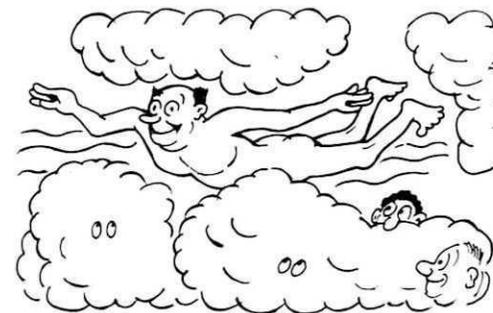
Reserved for the fairy folk



You can promote the sweating process by beating yourself with a leafy whisk (vihta)



'It makes you feel extraordinarily weightless'



Cartoons by Max

The uninitiated who would like to try a sauna (and the initiated who would like to repeat the experience) will be interested to learn that Gloucester Baths are planning to install sauna bath facilities later this year. There will be an exercise area with equipment for a pre-sauna work-out, a sauna steam room and a rest room offering light refreshments. Wood finishes and woven wall hangings will be featured in the decor to give an authentic Scandinavian atmosphere. The charge will be 10s. 6d. a time.

"We could not have a greater friend than Mr. Charles Loughlin", said Mr. John Hankin when, on behalf of Mr. Wickstead, who was unable to be present, he welcomed the guest of honour at our ninth annual dance and reunion. "He is one of the declining number of MPs who reckon their job is to represent the people. No MP could have been more conscious of the needs of his constituency and done more to further their interests."

The dance was held in the Social Centre on November 22 — the day more 'squeeze' measures were announced, and Mr. Hankin took the opportunity to point out that 'we of Rank Xerox at any rate are doing our stuff to correct the balance of payments'.

Mr. Loughlin replied that he was glad of the

MR. LOUGHLIN LEND A HAND

partnership he had with Rank Xerox. The Company had played a major part in producing jobs for this area which now had an unemployment rate lower than many other parts of the country.

In the course of his speech Mr. Loughlin announced that he would not be sending out Christmas cards this year; instead he handed a cheque for £10 to Mr. Henry Phillips, chairman of the Sports & Social Club, to be put to some charitable use before Christmas. Mr. Phillips said that the club would double this amount and a sum of £10 was later sent to each of the Societies for

Mentally and Physically Handicapped Children. After the three contestants for the current title had been judged by Mr. and Mrs. Loughlin, the retiring 'Miss Rank Xerox' — Sallyann Teague of Data Processing Department — presented Mrs. Loughlin with a bouquet.

Emergency Call!

Members of the fire brigade attending the dance had to be called out during the evening, not to put out a fire but to bring in water! A burst pipe between Longhope and Mitcheldean threatened supplies to the canteen building, but Works Engineering staff, together with the brigade members, fixed up a temporary supply using firemen's hoses and a catastrophe was averted.

Jeanette, the new 'Miss Rank Xerox' with (left) runner-up Janet Jones of Purchase Department, and Linda Dowding of the Mail Room who came third.



TALENT required

Are you a ventriloquist?

Light comedian?

Expert impersonator?

Nifty juggler?

Tell us without delay
and you could be in the

RANK VARIETY SHOW 1969

We also require good musical acts and dancers, so come along to the Social Centre on Wednesday, January 29 at 7 pm and show us what you can do

ANY NEWS FOR VISION?

If you have, then please

- tell your departmental correspondent
- leave it at the Gate House for collection by me
- post it to me at Tree Tops, Plump Hill, Mitcheldean or
- ring me — it's Drybrook 415

Myrtle Fowler, Editor

CROSSWORD SOLUTION

ACROSS: 1 — Apparent. 7 — Tenet. 8 — Peregrine. 9 — USA. 10 — Eddy. 11 — Vesper. 13 & 14 — Hidden assets. 17 — Porter. 18 — Lies. 20 — Doe. 22 — Art master. 23 — Emery. 24 — Blithely.

DOWN: 1 — Apple. 2 — Paraded. 3 — Rags. 4 — Noises. 5 — Incur. 6 — Straits. 7 — Tempest. 12 — Hearsay. 13 — Hundred. 15 — Epistle. 16 — Mental. 17 — Peter. 19 — Spray. 21 — Hart.

Mr. Loughlin hands his £10 cheque for charity to Mr. Phillips



MC Roger Morey entertained the company before the judging took place. Seated in front are (left to right) Mr. J. Hankin, Sallyann Teague (the retiring 'Miss Rank Xerox'), Mr. and Mrs. C. Loughlin, Mr. H. Phillips, Mrs. Hankin, and Mr. R. Steward.





Mr. T. W. J. Buffry and Mr. G. Howard



Mr. D. Lowde



Mr. A. Corbett Miller

Works Humour

Notice on staircase: 'Wet paint on rails'.

Comment by humorist: 'It'll never make the charts, man!'

We deplore the disfigurement of notices, but had to smile at this one.

NEW APPOINTMENTS

Mr. Geoffrey Howard has been appointed Chief Chemist and deputy to the Manager of the Works Laboratory, Mr. F. T. L. Davies. A Licentiate of the Royal Institute of Chemistry and a member of the Institute of Metal Finishing, Mr. Howard has hitherto been employed as metal finishing chemist in charge of the Plating Laboratory section of the Works Laboratory.

Mr. Terry W. J. Buffry, who is a Long Service member, has been appointed to the new post of Research Chemist.

For having made 'a marked contribution to the metal finishing profession', Mr. Davies was recently made an Associate of the Institute of Metal Finishing, which carries the professional qualification of AIMF.

The Education & Training Department, headed by Mr. Frank Edwards, is going ahead with development plans, the general purpose of which is to utilise fully the resources of employees at all levels, taking advantage of external and internal courses, seminars, visits, etc., and at the same time reconciling training activities with the recommendations of the Engineering Industries Training Board.

In order to implement this progressive programme, the present Education & Training staff is being strengthened by the appointment of Training Officers and the first such appointment was that of electrical engineer Mr. David Lowde on October 14. As Training Officer (Administration) he is responsible for administration of EITB requirements, general administration with regard to internal and external courses, and liaison with the establishments of further education.

Further appointments will be announced in due course.

Recently appointed Security Sergeant at our Plant, Mr. Alfred Corbett Miller was formerly a member of Gloucestershire Constabulary and has spent 30 years in the police force; before that he served with the Grenadier Guards. He is presently occupying the site bungalow.

CLUB COMMENTARY

Jalopy Jill

You can't keep women out of anything these days — even the hazardous hobby of jalopy racing. Driving the jalopy built from scratch by electrician Ken Jenkins, Jill Bretherick (chargehand, electrical wiring section) won second place in 1968 in the ladies' section of the Forest of Dean Jalopy Club.

Ken, who won first place in the men's 1200cc class two years ago, came third this last season; he also won a tankard at an earlier race meeting this year. He is on the committee of the club, and so is his wife Margaret (3600 electrical subs) who acts as its treasurer. Ken maintains the sport is not dangerous if you stick to the rules (for example, all vehicles must be sufficiently strengthened to resist a *roll-over*; doors, if fitted, must be securely fastened — see what we mean?).

Now he has acquired his own welder, he intends to scrap his present jalopy and build another for the new season's racing. The main problem is getting a suitable practice ground: something in the region of six acres is necessary, allowing adequate margin for error!

Down under the Forest

Draughtsmen and engineers from Welwyn, visiting our Plant on training courses, are seeing quite a lot of what goes on *under* the Forest! A goodly percentage of members of the Forest of Dean Caving Club work at Mitcheldean, and, as the majority of them are in Engineering, it is becoming almost a social custom for our visitors to be invited to join in caving expeditions.

Just in case you think that always means wading about in ice-cold water up to the chest, we'd like to report that the club recently held a Hallowe'en Barbecue in Old Ham Mine, Clearwell, which was attended by some 300 people. They enjoyed hot snacks of sausages and onions, and watched a cabaret featuring a guitar group and our resident magician Philip Southwood. Profits went to the Gloucestershire Cave Rescue Organisation, none of whose facilities were called upon on this occasion, we're glad to say.

Anglers' Success

Two Rank Xerox Angling Club members who also belong to the Ross-on-Wye Club have made a good start in the latter direction. Roger Roberts (Design Engineering) was placed second in a recent competition with a catch of 13½ lb while Pete Welch (TED) came first in a subsequent one with a catch of 14½ lb.

Pete has been successful in the home club too, coming first in the contest held on November 17 with a catch of 6-9-12, while Andrew Phillips, who is the youngest member of the club, came



Jalopy drivers Jill Bretherick and Ken Jenkins pose with racing trophies; leaning on the jalopy bonnet is Ken's wife Margaret. Our picture was taken by 14-year-old trainee photographer Glyn (Ira Griffin's son) while sheltering camera, flash-gun and self beneath a much-needed umbrella!

second (6-8-4). First again in the December 1 contest, Pete had a catch of 4-5-8; Jack Williams came second with 4-1-0.

Fixtures already made for the 1969 season include two on the Severn and one on the Warwickshire Avon, by kind permission of the River Authorities and Cheltenham Anglers respectively.

Outings without men

And the men must have been envious when the Ladies' Outing Club, formed recently in Design Department, visited Harveys wine cellars at Bristol and tasted the wines! They have seen the Black & White Minstrel Show and are going to the panto at Bristol. Organiser Miss Doris Barker told us that future outings may include a trip to see 'Gone with the Wind' and another wine tasting.

Double Double

Silver and bronze medals have been awarded to Ballroom Dancing Club members who took the examinations of the Imperial Society of Teachers of Dancing recently. Graham Beavan (E.O. Dept.) gained his silver medal; Miss Joan Grindle (Purchase) got her bronze and was commended; and Mrs. Greta Marfell (720 electrical subs) and her husband brought off a double double! Greta gained her double bronze with honours and her husband Bert gained his with commendation. The double bronze covers the quickstep, foxtrot, waltz, tango and slow rhythm.

Putting **YOU** in the picture

Silver Wedding

Congratulations to Sidney Mobey (Paint Shop) and his wife who celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary on December 10. Sidney becomes a Long Service member this year.

Engagements

Miss Pam Smith (3600 Assembly) to Steve Creed on October 5.

Miss Susan Ingram (Accounts Dept.) to Alan Hyett on October 11.

Miss Pat Tudor (3600 Assembly) to Robert Prosser (spot welding, Building 24) on October 12.

21st Birthdays

Miss Carol Barnett (3600 Assembly) on September 22.

Timothy Lewis (3600 Assembly) on November 11.

Weddings

Miss Carol Hodges (Purchase Department) to David Robinson (PED) at Lydbrook Parish Church on October 5.

Miss Julie Gardner (Comps. Section, Accounts) to Ray Watkins (programmer, Data Processing) at Holy Trinity Church, Drybrook, on October 19.

Miss Jane Whitworth (secretary to Mr. R. W. Mason, Chief Production Engineer) to Ronald Knight at All Saints Church, Staunton, on November 2.

Apprentice Morry Roberts to Miss Janice Jones at Lydney Register Office on November 16.

Clifford Sterry (sorter assembly, Gloucester Trading Estate) to Miss Pauline Jeffreys at Lydney Register Office on November 30.

Miss Susan Stephens (Design Department) to Timothy Lewis (3600 Assembly) at St. Michael & All Angels Church, Mitcheldean, on December 4.

New Arrivals

Leane, a daughter for Terry Duberley (chargehand, Model Shop), on September 18.

Donna Jayne, a daughter for John Spencer (inspector, sorter assembly, Gloucester Trading Estate), on September 29.

Nicholas Brendan, a son for Bruce Powell (Works Engineering) and his wife Brenda (formerly Polishing & Plating Shop), on October 7.

Rachel, a daughter for Ken Smart (Press Shop) and his wife Glynis (formerly Production Control), also on October 7.

Donna-Clare, a daughter for Don James (Reliability Engineering) and his wife Brenda (formerly Reliability Laboratory), on October 10.

Marcia, a daughter for Terry Ward (3600 Quality Control), on October 20.

Veronica Margaret, a daughter for Ken Johnson (Development Laboratory), on October 23.

Julie, a daughter for Peter Osborn (Design Records), also on October 23.

David John, a son for Fred Jones (sorter assembly Gloucester Trading Estate) and his wife Edna (formerly First Aid, Mitcheldean), on October 28.

Adrian, a son for Peter Trigg (Accounts) and his wife Joan (formerly Supply Planning), on November 4.

Paula-Jane, a daughter for Colin Smith (Development Laboratory), on November 9.

Kathryn, a daughter for Dave Cox (Factory Progress) and his wife Wendy (formerly Goods Inwards), on November 22.

Retirements

Our best wishes for a happy retirement go to the following who leave in

January — Leonard Little (General Services), Horace Redding (storekeeper);

February — Miss Doris Symonds (assembly viewer), Mrs. Margaret Vincent (cleaner). (See also LSA Letter).

Obituaries

We regret to have to record the deaths of the following: George J. Bowdler (International Warehouse, Gloucester) aged 61, on October 19; John Knight (Design Department) aged 54, on November 7; John Tingle (International Warehouse, Gloucester) aged 46, on November 21. Ken Lewis (Maintenance) aged 57, on November 29.

ACROSS

- 1 A quiet mother or father, it's obvious. (8)
- 7 Good principle, whichever way you look at it. (5)
- 8 Does Reg repine for his foreign bird? (9)
- 9 A great nation in exodus any day now. (3)
- 10 Chap in a whirl, also a stone light. (4)
- 11 Offer a prayer in the evening for a scooter? (6)
- 13 & 14 Don't show these to the taxman: keep your little donkeys out of sight. (6 & 6)
- 17 Stout carrier. (6)
- 18 Sounds like the staff man is not telling the truth. (4)
- 20 What the young buck needs when he's hard up? (3)
- 22 No gunman, but possibly quick on the draw. (3 & 6)
- 23 Radio comic aid to grinding. (5)
- 24 'Hail to thee,' sang the poet in this manner, 'bird thou never wert..' (8)

DOWN

- 1 Daily doctor deterrent. (5)
- 2 How the guardsman *did* show off. (7)
- 3 Appropriate clothing for disorderly students. (4)
- 4 Sounds strange — on the stage they're off! (6)
- 5 Incurable, but not able to contract it yourself. (5)
- 6 Magellan found himself in dire ones. (7)

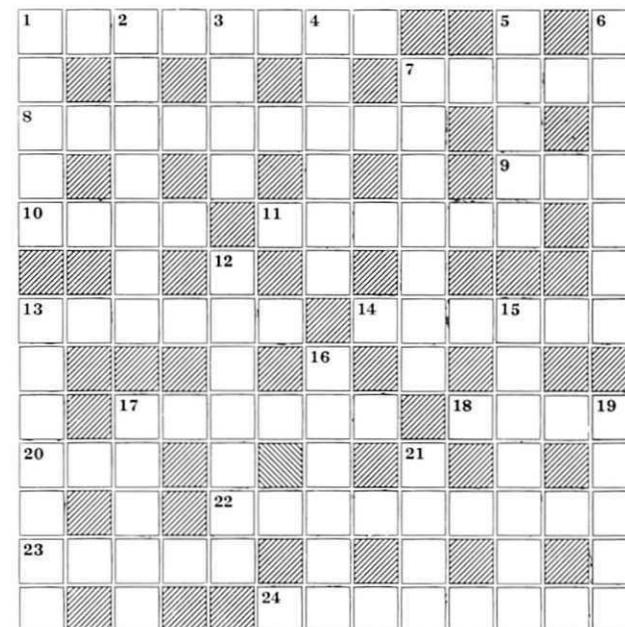
Boxing Bouts

A second Boxing Tournament (the first was held just over a year ago) is to take place in the Social Centre on January 11. Cinderford Amateur Boxing Club, in the person of their secretary, Mrs. Tess Symonds, is arranging an interesting programme for us.

For Sale

1966 Vespa Sportigue, first reg. September 1967, taxed and insured until September 1969. Many extras. £120 ono. Replies to: R. Jones, time clerk.

Olivetti portable typewriter, model Lettera 22, complete with case. Condition as new, price £15. Contact: G. T. Beavan, E.O. Dept., Bldg. 32. Tel: 406 int.



by Paul Gregory
Solution p. 11

- 7 Shakespearian storm. (7)
- 12 Such idle gossip — don't pass it on. (7)
- 13 Thirty-six for a fast worker — and our bread and butter! (7)
- 15 A formal letter, perhaps containing gospel truth. (7)
- 16 It's all in the mind, you know. (6)
- 17 Sainly writer of 15. (5)
- 19 Water the flowers. (5)
- 21 Our Len is nearly always white at the pub! (4)

Mr. and Mrs. D. Robinson

Mr. and Mrs. R. Watkins

Mr. and Mrs. R. Knight



R. L. Evans

L. Fisher



Santas Ray and Roy shake hands before the hand-out.

Twin Santas!

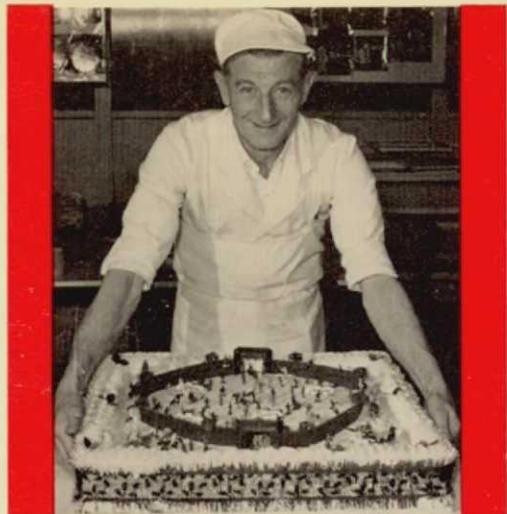
Into the Social Centre poured the five hundred, ready to do justice to a fare of films, food and fun. The occasion was the children's party held by the Sports & Social Club on December 14.

After the film show came tea, the highlight of which was the cake — this year a 70 lb. one with fruit inside and a Fort Cheyenne scene on top.

In the ballroom afterwards the kids worked off their tea while entertainers Jack Benbow, Harry Tooze and Gordon Davies, with Billy Sinclair and Ginger Lusty, strove to make themselves heard!

Climax was the arrival of the twin Santas, Roy Steward (Welfare Officer) and Ray Davies (Design Engineering), who handed a present to each girl and boy before they went home.

Tea for the five hundred. Above right: Presents for the girls from Santa Roy.



Baker Ronald Meek presents his 70 lb. cake.

