

JUNE 1979

**Marconi
Radar**

ECHO

The internal newspaper of Marconi Radar Systems and its people

On other pages

Colonel E. N. Elford	3
Apprentice Awards	5
Weather Forecasters	6
Long Service Awards	8
Gateshead News	9
Meet the Wallbangers	10
Darts Players on Target	11



Royal Visitor

□ HIS Royal Highness Prince Philip showed a keen interest in TEPIGEN, the Company's Television Picture Generator, when he visited the GEC-Marconi stand at a recent London conference celebrating 50 years of flight simulation.

He is seen here discussing the system with Colin Crabb (centre), Sales Department, Control and Simulation Division.

New opportunities

WE HAVE started a new financial year, we have a new Government, and our opportunities are as wide open as ever. We have set ourselves tough targets for the next twelve months, for output, for new orders and for containing expenditure to reasonable limits, but with a little extra effort and attention to detail we shall achieve those targets.

The Royal Navy is placing great dependence on us as their radar supplier for the new generation of ships. I recently accompanied Sir Robert Telford to see Marconi Radar products in HMS Invincible, the new cruiser which carries Sea Harrier aircraft and which is equipped with our surveillance radars and radars for the Sea Dart weapon system.

We also visited HMS Battleaxe, the second of the Type 22 ships which are fitted with our Seawolf radars. These equipments have been successful in both land and sea trials and at sea with the Fleet, and I was very proud to be able to show them to Sir Robert in their operational surroundings.

The turmoil in Iran and the general uncertainty in the Middle East has made it very difficult to predict the trends of air defence requirements in that part of the world, but we are of course making every effort to ensure that when orders are placed Marconi Radar will be in an advantageous position, and my colleagues and I continue to maintain the Company's contacts in the world's markets.

The old friends of Colonel Norman Elford were very sad to hear of his recent death; he was a great man and put Marconi into the forefront of the radar business in the fifteen years following the war. Our thoughts and sympathy go out to his widow May. I have asked Bill Quill who knew him very well to write about Colonel Elford, and his words are published in this edition of Echo.

JOHN SUTHERLAND
Managing Director



Controller of the Navy at Writtle Road

VICE ADMIRAL J. D. E. Fieldhouse, Controller of the Navy, recently visited the Company at Chelmsford. He was accompanied by Captain J. Burgass, RN, Naval Assistant to the Controller, and Mr. G. A. Halnan, Project Manager, SEAWOLF, ASWE.

The Controller was welcomed to the Company by John Sutherland. In the

course of a full day's programme, presentations were given on certain naval projects by various members of the Company.

Vice Admiral Fieldhouse was also conducted on a tour of Writtle Road Works. Our picture shows him in conversation with Alan Shelley, Works Manager.

New radar will serve oil industry



This S1061 antenna, shown here ready for display at Farnborough, is similar to the one we are supplying to the CAA for the South Shetlands.

THE Company is to supply a new transportable radar for installation at Sumburgh in the South Shetlands to give radar coverage for the rapidly increasing air traffic serving the offshore oil industry north of Scotland.

With a delivery timescale of just 24 weeks — one of the shortest on record — the equipment is part of an urgent Civil Aviation Authority programme which calls for commissioning of the system in July of this year, ready for the heavy summer traffic.

We were able to meet this

remarkably tight timescale by using modules from our S600 Series of transportable radars.

For the technically-minded, an S1061 L-band (23cm) squintless feed antenna together with an S2011 transmitter/receiver were selected for good range performance against small targets such as helicopters and light aircraft, while circular polarisation and the S7100 digital signal processor will ensure a crisp, low-clutter display in the bad weather often experienced in the Shetlands.

COLONEL E. N. ELFORD

A tribute by W.J. Quill

IT IS with great regret and a sense of personal loss, that many colleagues and friends at Marconi, and beyond, learned of the death of Colonel E. N. Elford, OBE, on 22 March.

Norman Elford joined Marconi Wireless Telegraph Company Limited in 1937. On the outbreak of war in 1939 he joined the Royal Artillery and served with distinction and with that loyalty and integrity of character which so many of us were to recognise and admire later.

On his return from war service, he rejoined the Company, but with a vision; a vision of the new war-time radar devices forming the basis of an entirely new business within the Company, a business which would design, manufacture and sell the new radar systems to friendly countries and to Civil Aviation Authorities whose growth he foresaw as early as 1946 as something outstripping the most optimistic official forecasts of the time.

It was his own faith, drive and powers of persuasion, together with some finely tempered fighting steel in his make-up, which slowly overcame the natural caution and economical arguments of Company Management — but who, once convinced, backed Norman one hundred per cent, and Services Equipment Division was formed (later renamed Radar Division) and Norman made Manager.

The first faltering steps of the new venture in 1948 and 1949 owed their success to his wisdom, faith and drive, but above all to a unique brand of loyalty which his own personal qualities of character commanded from all those who served him. Loyalty to his staff and integrity in all that he did marked the growing years of radar, and



during these years Norman became "Mr Radar" to a great many overseas governments and armed forces who owed the acquisition of their first radar systems to his early vision.

Norman retired in 1962 having seen his Radar Division grow to maturity, gaining international recognition and being involved in some of the most significant radar projects in the Western World.

Sadly he is gone, and though he leaves behind many significant and tangible achievements to mark his place, it is not these which will portray Norman Elford to those who knew him well, but rather those rare qualities of character which he brought to all that he did.

For many of us he will be remembered in Mark Anthony's immortal words . . . *"His life was gentle and the elements so mixed in him that nature might stand up and say, to all the World — this was a man."*

W. J. QUILL

Company in joint bid for UK Air Defence System

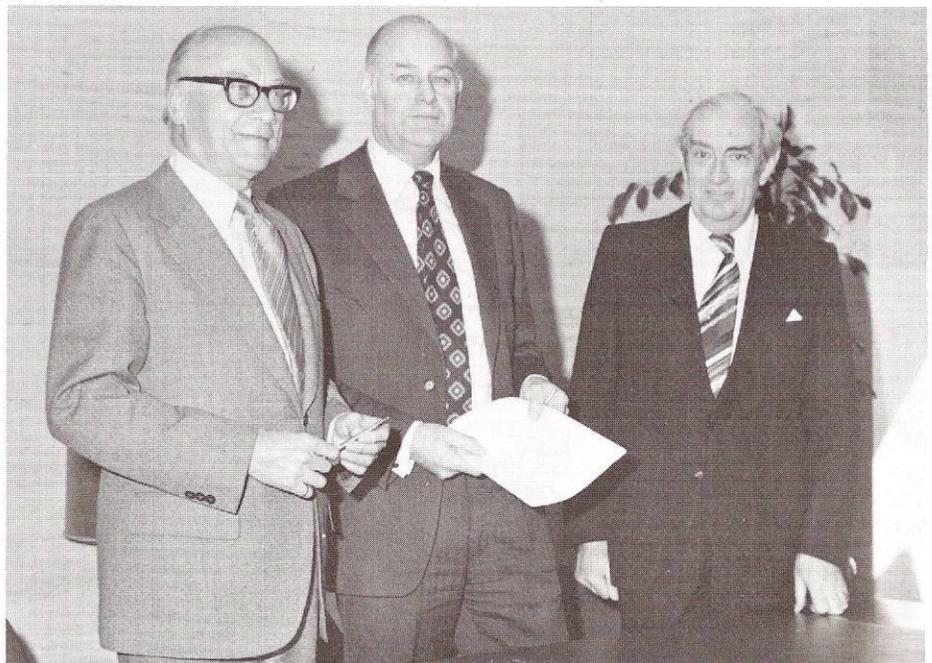
THE Marconi Company, the Plessey Company and the Hughes Aircraft Company of the United States have agreed to form a new UK Company — UKADGE Systems Limited (UKSL).

The new company will submit proposals requested by the British Ministry of Defence on behalf of NATO to meet requirements for improving the country's air defence system, known as UKADGE (UK Air Defence Ground Environment).

The programme calls for the improvement of the existing system by the incorporation of new modern display and automatic data processing equipment and a comprehensive communications network. The majority of the cost will be met by NATO funding.

UKADGE Systems Ltd. will be jointly owned by Hughes, Marconi and Plessey who will share the work equally.

The Ministry of Defence is expected to announce the award of the UKADGE contract in the first quarter of next year.



Pictured here after the signing ceremony are (left to right) Clare G. Carlson, Vice President and Group Executive, Ground Systems Group, Hughes Aircraft Company; Peter Bates, Deputy Chairman, Plessey Electronic Systems; and John Sutherland, Managing Director, Marconi Radar Systems.

Admiral's visit . . .

REAR Admiral L. S. Bryson, Director General Weapons (Naval), spent two days with the Company recently, visiting both Chelmsford and Leicester.

At Chelmsford the Admiral was accompanied by Captain P. J. Aldridge, Naval Assistant, and Mr. L. Flowers, Civil Assistant, Ministry of Defence. They took part in discussions on naval subjects and then toured Writtle Road Works.

On the following day the Admiral was joined at Leicester by Commander A. Baird, Commander of Sea Dart project, and the day was spent in tours and further discussions.



Our picture shows Rear Admiral Bryson with Works Manager Alan Shelley (left) during his tour of Writtle Road. Also in the picture are Technical Director Roy Simons and Bill Melville, Manager, Defence Division, Royal Navy (Chelmsford).



John takes command

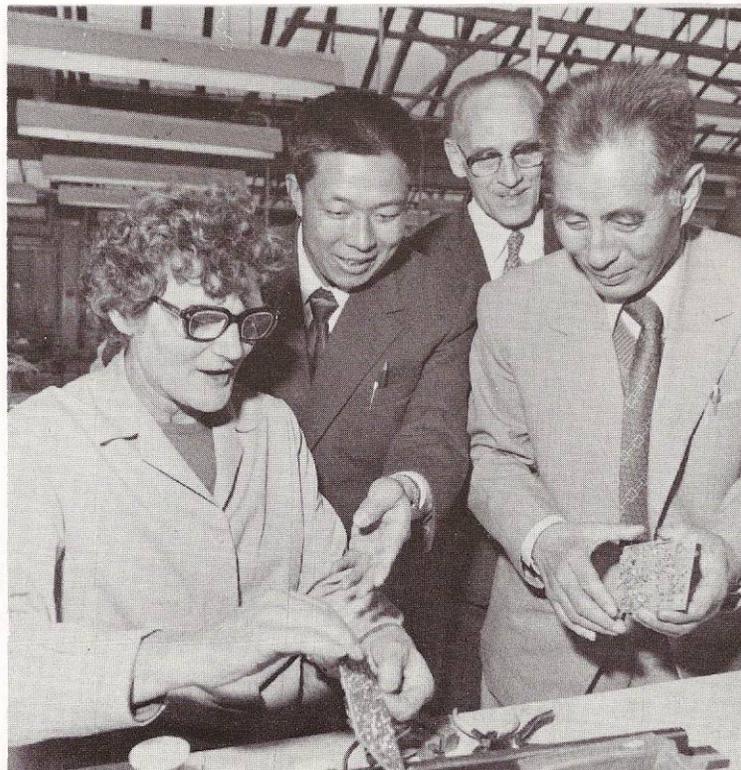
WING Commander J. M. Brown (right), a former Marconi employee, is pictured taking over command of RAF Staxton Wold from Wing Commander P. C. Phillips.

John Brown was at Baddow with the Datamation Group from 1957 to 1959, and then joined the Radar Division as a systems engineer working on the NATO Early Warning Contract. In 1966 he was appointed Product Planning Manager of the newly-formed Space Communications Division at Marrable House, Baddow. He re-joined the RAF in the Engineer Branch in 1971.

☆TWO Marconi Digilux 'touch mask' devices are to be used in a Ministry of Defence study of the interaction between man and machine in advanced military aircraft cockpits.

We are to supply a Digilux touch mask to the Royal Aircraft Establishment at Farnborough and another to BAC Warton where they will be evaluated as a method of centralising many of the aircraft's controls. With computers taking over many of the control functions in fast low-level strike aircraft, the man/machine interface between pilot and computer becomes increasingly important.

The Digilux touch mask has many applications in air traffic control and military defence systems, but this is believed to be the first application of the technology in an aircraft cockpit.



Visitors from China

IN our last issue John Timbers wrote of the visit he and his colleagues had made to Peking. Since then we have welcomed a number of Chinese visitors to the Company at Chelmsford, Leicester and Gateshead.

Here we see two of our guests showing a keen interest in the work of Mrs. Joyce Irving during their tour of the Blackbird Road factory. In the background is Works Manager Owen Jones.



Back Row (left to right): Ian Suttling, Andrew Wilkinson, Andrew Jackson, Sir Robert Telford, John Sutherland, David Wright, Chris Black, Jeremy White, Graham Francis. Front Row: Terry Soame, Andrew Butcher, Jenny Joyce, Nigel Dalby, Julie Tiffen, Stephen Everitt, Robin Ingram, David Pipe.

APPRENTICE AWARDS AT CHELMSFORD

□ THE annual Apprentice Presentation Ceremony was held at the MASC, Chelmsford, when apprentices from Marconi Radar and Marconi Research received their awards from Sir Robert Telford, Managing Director, GEC-Marconi Electronics.

The gathering was welcomed by John Sutherland, and after a report by Alan Horsnell, Personnel Manager, and the presentation of awards by Sir Robert, a vote of thanks was given by student apprentice Terence Soame.

* * *

The award winners were as follows:

Best Student Apprentice (Thin Sandwich), T. A. Soame; Highly Commended Student Apprentice (Thin Sandwich), A. Butcher; Best Student Apprentice (Thick Sandwich), A. J. Wilkinson; Highly Commended Student Apprentice (Thick Sandwich), A. Jackson; Best Electronic Technician Apprentice, N. Dalby; Highly Commended Electronic Technician Apprentice, D. K. Wright; Best Mechanical Technician Apprentice, C. Black; Highly Commended Mechanical Technician Apprentice, J. White; Chris Bagguley Memorial Prize, Best Installation Apprentice, G. Raynor; Andrew Adams Memorial Award, Best in Manufacturing, J. White; Best Craft Apprentice in 1st Year, I. R. Suttling; Best Craft Sheet Metal Worker, D. J. Pipe; Best Craft Machinist, G. L. Francis; Best Craft Instrument Maker, R. J. Ingram; Best Craft Wireman Assembler, S. J. Everitt; Best Shorthand Typist, J. C. Joyce (Miss); Best Clerk Typist, J. A. Tiffen (Miss).



Sir Robert admires a model of Martello presented to him by the apprentices. With him are John Sutherland and Arthur Smith, Chief Training Officer.

Could your house be a home from home?

A NUMBER of graduates will be commencing employment with us in Chelmsford throughout the summer months, the main intake being in August and September.

All these young men and women will be moving into the area and will require accommodation immediately. Maybe you've often thought of letting a spare room in your house to earn yourself some extra cash, but have never quite got round to it — possibly because you can't be absolutely sure that you will get someone you would like.

On this point we can probably put your mind at rest.

We're recruiting approximately 200 students and graduates, both male and female. We have interviewed them all and they have passed our scrutiny — but the final choice about who you will have under your roof is, of course, entirely up to you.

Accommodation can be bed and breakfast, or bed, breakfast and evening meal. It could be temporary, until the graduate in question finds a place of his or her own, or perhaps you know of a friend or neighbour who have a flat or house to rent on a shared basis.

Find out more by ringing Mrs. Joyce Wrench, Housing Officer, Int. Tel. New Street 773. Ext. Tel. 18.



Robin Webb leaves us

ROBIN Webb, who has left the Company to take up a position as sales manager with a mobile radio company, is shown here with Managing Director John Sutherland at a farewell ceremony which was attended by many of his colleagues.

Robin joined the Services Equipment Division of Marconi Wireless Telegraph Company in 1956 as a

laboratory assistant at Rivenhall. In 1963 he became a system engineer specialising in Air Traffic Control and went on to become expert in the demonstration of display and data handling equipment.

In 1977 he was appointed Sales Controller responsible for the sales of Air Traffic Control equipment, both in UK and certain areas abroad.

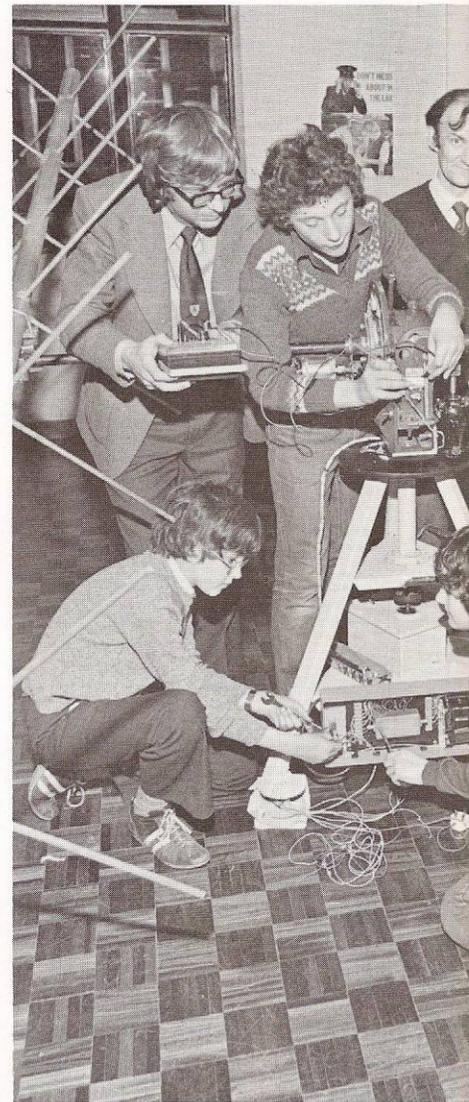
Council chairman in visit



CAUGHT by the camera during their visit to the Blackbird Road factory are Councillor Mrs. Irons, chairman of Blaby District Council, and Mr. Irons (right), accompanied here by Ken Merricks, Production Engineering Services Manager.

Mr. and Mrs. Irons spent a day touring our two Leicester establishments at the invitation of the Company, after Mrs. Irons had earlier made it known that she would like to get to know more about local industry.

The visitors were welcomed to New Parks in the morning by Colin Latham, then Site and Development Manager, and Fred Parkin, Personnel Manager. In the afternoon they toured the Blackbird Road factory



WEATHER FO OF THE

FOR the last 18 months, a group of schoolboys and girls from Groby Upper School, Leicester, have been returning to the school on one evening a week to work on a futuristic science project under the guidance of three radar engineers from New Parks.

The engineers concerned are Kent Robinson, George Hurd and Geoff Findon, and they are helping the youngsters to build the first stages of a satellite tracking station. Its function, when completed, will be to receive pictures from orbiting satellites, showing cloud cover over Western Europe.

Another group has been learning the principles of computer programming and writing programmes which will eventually be used to produce paper tapes to control the movements of the antenna. Members of this group



Simulator for 'Down Under'

NEW PROJECT

MARCONI Radar and Plessey Radar have agreed jointly to produce a new L-band long range radar.

This new radar forms the basis of a combined bid to be submitted to meet the UK Civil Aviation Authority's radar replacement programme.

The new system will embody the latest developments in radar technology and will be one of the most advanced of its kind in the world. Designed to meet the UK CAA's exacting requirements, it will also provide a platform from which the future needs of the expanding export market can be met.

THE Royal Australian Air Force recently accepted the first of three ADEW/GCI simulators from the Company at Chelmsford.

The simulators will enable radar operational personnel, in particular fighter controllers, to train in a realistic environment without the need and expense of live flying. This is achieved by providing additional simulated inputs of radar video, data and communications to the operational display and data handling systems.



● Pictured here (left to right) are Steve Bonsfield (Project Engineer), Fl. Lt. Pete Bevan RAAF, Paul Baird (Sales Manager), Sq. Ldr. Colin Hewett RAAF, Iain Butler (Director) and Sq. Ldr. Mike Greentree RAAF.



FORECASTERS FUTURE

are in touch with NASA to obtain up-to-date satellite orbit data, so vital for successful tracking.

Two girls have built the high frequency front end of the receiver which will be used to amplify the weak signals received by the antenna.

The project, code named WESP for Weather Satellite Project, is expected to take another two years of work before pictures are produced. The youngest pupils are 14 years of age and have the opportunity of taking part as soon as they start at the school.

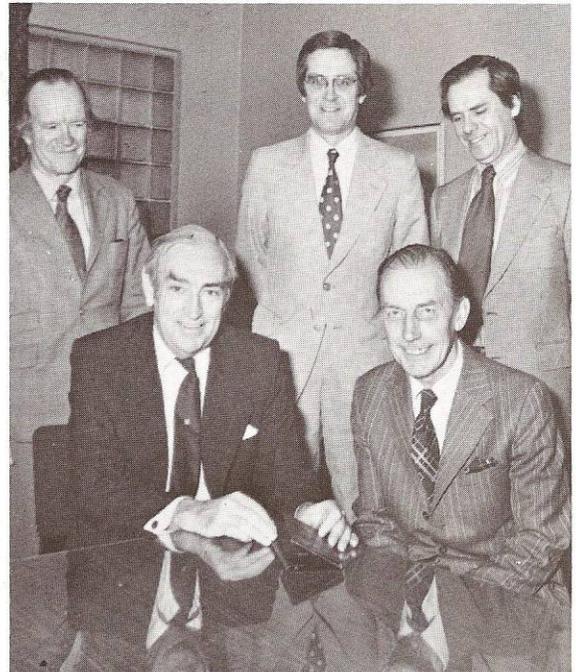


● Our picture, taken during one of the evening sessions, shows some of the youngsters at work on the antenna. Kent Robinson (left) and Geoff Findon are supervising.

Arthur Strong retires from Writtle Road

ARTHUR Strong, who joined Marconi in 1952 after serving during the war in the RAF, leaving with the rank of Flying Officer, has retired.

Arthur served the Company in several different departments, including Field Services, Installation Planning and the Established Design Section. He was also Company Representative at the Green Ginger Service User Evaluation Trials. Since 1971 he had been a member of the PDS group within Technical Services, acting as Meetings Secretary for the last few years. Outside work, he was secretary of the MASC Music Circle until it was discontinued a year or two ago.



Arthur (seated right) is pictured at a presentation ceremony with Managing Director John Sutherland. Looking on in the background are (left to right) John Palmer, Ken Walker and Ken Michael.

Ron calls it a day . . .



Ron (right) is seen here receiving a paint box on behalf of his colleagues from Contracts Manager Bob James. He also received a cheque from the Company.

RON MARTIN, a well-known figure at New Parks, has retired after 47 years' service with the Company.

Ron joined BTH Rugby as an engineering apprentice in 1931, starting his career with the Industrial Sales Department. During the war he became involved with the design of the early radars and spent most of the rest of his working life on radar development. He moved to New Parks, Leicester, in 1959. For a short spell in the early 1970's he worked on the design of microwave heating equipment for industrial purposes with GEC-Elliott Process Automation, who are also at the New Parks site.

WRITTLE ROAD CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

THE Christian Fellowship meets on Mondays at 12.35 in 'D' Building Reception, Writtle Road Works. The aims of the Group are to encourage general interest in the Christian Faith, and to bring together at their place of work those who accept Jesus Christ as their Saviour and Lord.

PROGRAMME FOR JUNE/JULY:

JUNE 4th: AGM.

JUNE 11th: "What is God like?" Speaker: Tony Ruddle.

JUNE 18th: Guest Speaker: Arthur Harvey, Industrial Chaplain.

JUNE 25th onwards: A series of studies on Parables told by Jesus, led by various members of the Fellowship.

At the end of July we break for the summer, until September. Further details available from the Secretary, Doug Jones, Tel. 2291 at Writtle Road Works.

J. A. LANCASTER, Chairman.

LONG SERVICE AWARDS AT CHELMSFORD

BACK ROW (left to right): P. E. Clegg (26 years), J. P. Hobbs (26), D. D. Caie (26); G. R. Boyce (26), N. C. Gibbons (26), J. W. Sutherland (Managing Director), J. R. Borrer (31), D. Donaldson (26), J. A. Hulme (26), K. Buckingham (26).

FRONT ROW: A. Wilkinson (29), W. Arthur (29), R. Emery (26), B. Neale (26), C. C. Downs (26).



BACK ROW (left to right): E. Morley (26 years), D. C. Lambert (26), J. J. Laitt (26), A. H. Matthews (26), F. McGlynn (26), D. Quilter (26), R. W. Simons (Director), R. A. Collins (27), N. S. Pavey (26), R. Crompton (26), F. J. Savill (26), R. G. Rowe (26), K. B. Maynard (26), F. R. G. Martyr (26).

FRONT ROW: T. J. Mosse (26), A. D. Stevens (26), R. W. Rawlins (26), N. H. Jessop (26), K. G. Smith (26).

LETTER

Sir,
We have a murderer in our family, a cold-blooded killer — as bad, well almost as bad, as some people. This morning a poor little lifeless body, with a few black-and-white identifying tail feathers, was on our back doorstep.

Tonight the hen great tit will sleep alone. Those two birds had shared that box for three years on cold winter nights. Together they had raised at least four families — and now that blankety cat — ugh!

Brandy is one of those ginger cats with personality. As well as a killer, he is a creep. The brute has charm and I suppose we shall have to keep him. Maybe the Marconi Company could develop and market an early warning system for us bird-watchers!

Bird-watchers, naturalists and conservationists are a hope for the future generations. My wife has been a bird-watcher for years. They have a keen group in our coming riverside town of South Woodham Ferrers.

Like all things that are worth doing, bird-watching needs enthusiasm and incentive. One can always dream of seeing something special, something rare. The only equipment one needs is a pair of field glasses, but it is vital to wear dull clothing or the bird will see you first.

The next planned outing is to hear the dawn chorus, what a horrible thought! The rendezvous is at 4 a.m. on a Sunday, but I may join them.

E. A. HUNT,
MRSL,
Great Baddow W/S

P.S. One month later: that clever hen bird has found a new mate and is now busy building a new nest in the box by our back door.

THE NEXT (BUT ONE) GENERATION!

□ THESE two happy young ladies have good reason for urging us all to 'Keep on Trackin'. Nicola (left) and Sarah are Managing Director John Sutherland's grandchildren.



Gateshead News



● Mr. J. Thomas was presented with a clock on behalf of friends and colleagues on his recent retirement from Gateshead Works. The presentation was made by Mr. R. M. Cantwell, Manufacturing Manager.



● Mr. A. D. Williamson, Personnel Manager, presented Nurse Olwyn Stevenson with a gold necklet when she left the Company to return to hospital work.



● Jack Johnson retired recently from his post as Security Officer at Gateshead Works and was presented with a cheque and a set of gardening tools by Mr. D. G. Beech, Establishment Officer.



● Jacqueline Sadler was presented with gifts from well-wishers at Gateshead on her departure to Corfu, where she is hoping to work. The presentation was made by Mr. A. B. Gibson, Purchasing Controller.



● Gillian Maddison is presented with a pressure cooker by Quality Control Manager Mr. C. R. Brownless, before her wedding.

Meet the Wall bangers!

THIS year's team champions in the skittles knock-out cup competition at Leicester were the Blackbird Road Wallbangers, who fought their way through to meet the EPA Pheasant Pluckers in the final during an exciting evening. The Wallbangers successfully plucked the pheasant clean and ran out easy winners by three legs to one.

The final of the singles competition was a closely-fought contest between Dave Wood, EPA Accounts, and Ken Wheatley, BRL Works Engineers, which ended with Dave coming out on top by the narrowest of margins, three legs to two. The two losing semi-finalists were Raj Patel and Ray Spillane, both of BRL Accounts.

Everyone declared this annual event to be a huge success, with special thanks due to BRL Works Manager Owen Jones for coming along and presenting the trophies.



(Left to right): Brian March, Harry Edwards, John McCullum, John McNulty (capt.), Dick Buthaway, Dave Parker, George Matts, Steve Ball. (Kneeling): Lee March (Wallbangers Mascot).



TWO in ONE day

THE Marconi (Leicester) Charities Committee, which is supported solely by Marconi Radar people at Leicester, excelled itself recently by making two presentations in one day. Both took place in the New Parks canteen.

● Our first picture shows the Warden of Staunton Harold Home, Melbourne, Derbyshire, receiving a cheque for £125 towards the purchase of a projector for the home. Also in the picture are committee members Cliff Shuttlewood, George Skipp, Harold Wright and Ken Lacey.



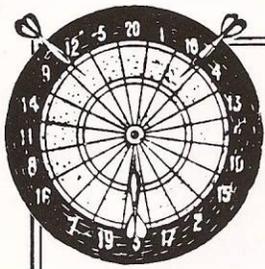
● The second picture shows representatives of the Andrew Tate fund for Leukaemic Children with the committee members after the presentation of a cheque for £50 towards the purchase of specialist equipment for the extraction of bone marrow.

Pensioners' party

NEARLY 200 people attended a Pensioners' Party in Leicester's Blackbird Road canteen recently. The guests were first taken on a coach trip around the county before returning to enjoy a turkey salad supper, followed by a raffle and a sing-song with a live group.

Our picture shows four of the oldest pensioners with Works Manager Owen Jones. (Left to right): Jim Greaves, George Dixon, Muriel Pimblott, Owen Jones and George Johnson.

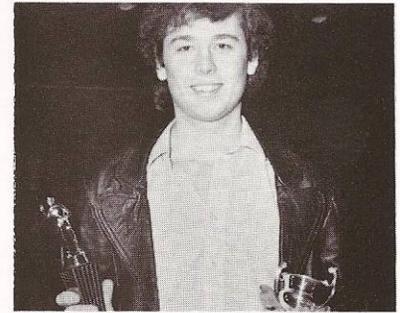




DARTS PLAYERS ON TARGET

□ THE GAME of darts is more popular than ever before, and the size of the audience which watched the recent championship matches on television surprised even the BBC. Small wonder, then, that the game is thriving within the Company — as evidenced by the following reports which have all been received since our last issue.

CHELMSFORD



● Dave Pearce added to the Radar Test team honours by winning the Singles Title.

ABOVE: The Radar Test darts team successfully defended the Division One championship which they won the previous season. Left to right: Jeff Harrington, Garry Brewster, Wally Thorpe, Roger Cummings, Dave Buxton and Doug Skingley. Absent from the picture are Dave Watts, Dave Bowerman and Dave Pearce.

RIGHT: Marconi Radar WRW, under a new captaincy and with three new members, won the Second Division of the Marconi Interdepartmental Darts Autumn League by a convincing six points. Left to right: P. Shelsher, P. Nixon, P. Southee, T. Plumpton, R. Roe (Capt.), M. Morley and T. Locke. Absent were T. Corfield, M. Ross, K. Mould and B. Costin.



LEICESTER

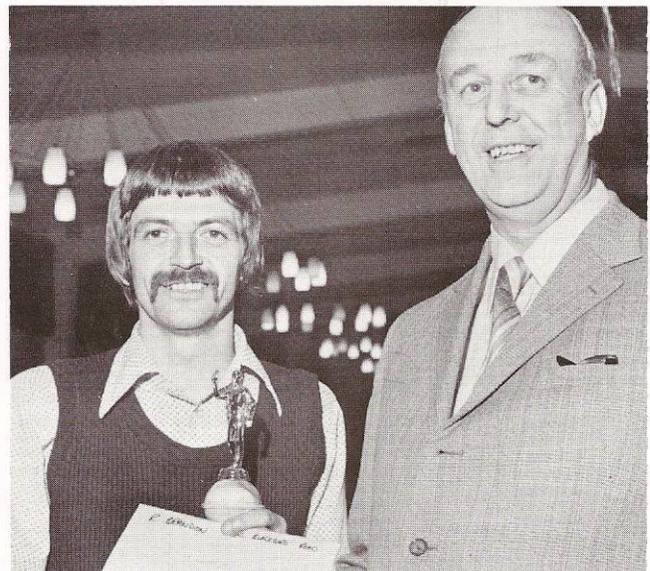


● AT THE close of the GEC (Leicester) Darts Club's fourth season, and after four months of keen competition, GEC-Elliott's Works Engineers' team were winners of the Interdepartmental Darts Competition. The finish was very close, there being only two points separating the top three teams.

The runners-up, as last year, were Electrical Assembly of Blackbird Road, while "The Cellars" — Marconi Radar at New Parks — lived up to their name and were bottom of the league!

The Pairs Knock-out was won by the Coltman twins, Mick and John, of Electrical Assembly, Blackbird Road, who beat Messrs. Hayes and Webster of the Blackbird Road "Inspectorate" in the final. We think Mick is on the left in our picture. Or could that be John?

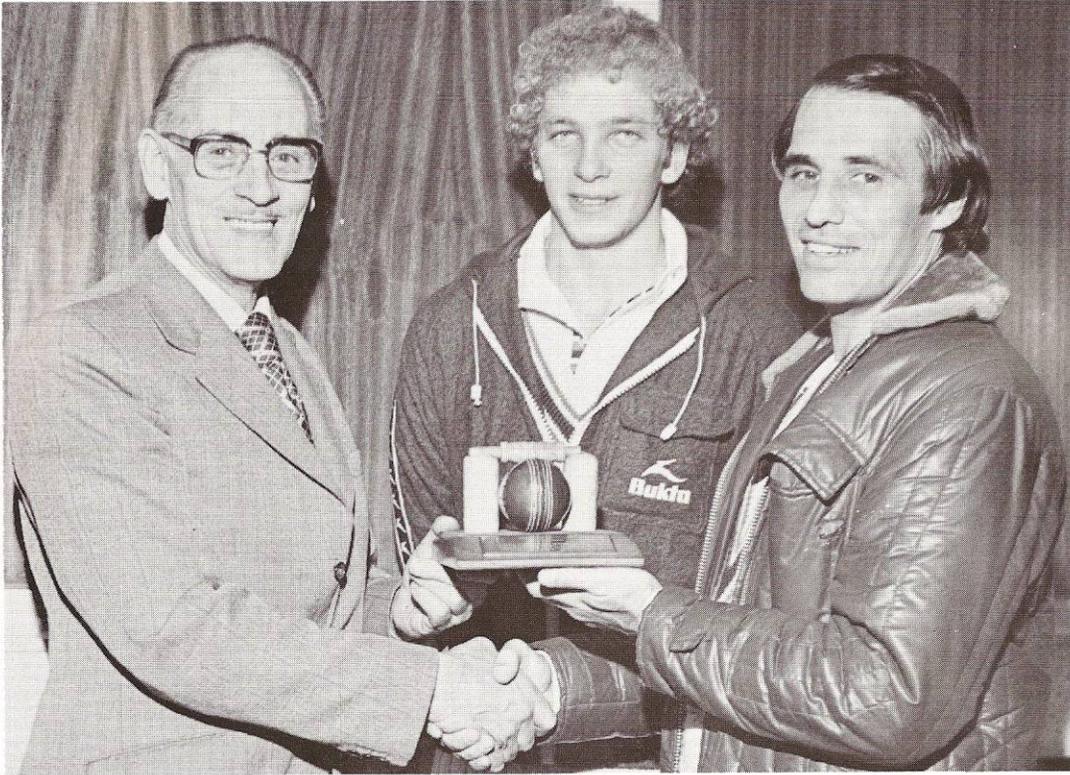
GEC MASTERS



● CONGRATULATIONS to Bob Brandon of our Blackbird Road factory who was runner-up in the first GEC Masters Tournament, held at New Parks, Leicester.

The GEC (Leicester) Darts Club, who organised this 'national' event, would like to thank all the participants for making it an overwhelming success. The winner was Mr. N. Skeogh of AEI Cables, Birtley.

The prizes were presented by Mr. G. E. Cobb, Works Director of GEC-Elliott Process Automation at New Parks, who is presenting Bob Brandon with his award in our picture.



CRICKET STARS AT LEICESTER

□ LEICESTERSHIRE and England cricketers David Gower and Roger Tolchard recently paid a visit to our Blackbird Road factory. The trophy that Roger is presenting to Works Manager Owen Jones includes one of the actual bails used in the first Test match at Brisbane last year, mounted on to a plinth complete with ball and stumps by Company apprentices. The trophy will be played for in Leicester's interdepartmental cricket competition.

Company canoe paddles to victory

THE Marconi Radar canoe, sponsored by the Company at Leicester through the efforts of Ron Rockett, Foreman, Model Shop, Blackbird Road, who is an Assistant Group Scout Leader, recently scored another notable success.

The canoe came first in its class over a long course and helped the 15th Leicester Scout Group to win the Team Trophy at the Walsall Long Distance canoe race.

Contributions

NEWS items, letters, photographs and suggestions for ECHO are always welcome. Copy date for the next issue is July 20.

Your contact is Arnold Smith, Editor ECHO, MRSL, New Parks, Leicester. Tel. (0533) 871331, Ext. 313, Int. 577. Or material may be handed to Christine Merrill, Assistant Publicity Manager, at Writtle Road.

BILL CARR ("CARRO")

WE deeply regret to report the death on March 25 of Bill Carr, better known to our readers as "Carro", who has made us smile with his amusing cartoons in Echo and other journals for many years. We extend our sympathy to his widow and family on behalf of us all.

Bill, who in his youth attended what used to be called the "Art School" at Chelmsford — later the Mid-Essex Technical College — became a well-known freelance cartoonist, known professionally as "Algy", and was a member of the Cartoon Club of Fleet Street.

He worked for Marconi for a short time during the war and returned to the Company in 1956 as supervisor of the Micro-Film Department at New Street, where he stayed until 1960.

He joined the Company again in 1976, this time as a pressure tester at Marconi Radar, Writtle Road, until he retired in May, 1977.

We still have a number of Bill's cartoons in our possession which we have arranged to use in future issues, and so we are glad to say that his work will continue to live on in ECHO for a little while yet.

MIKE MAKES GOOD

MIKE Smith, a third-year apprentice at Gateshead works, has become Blaydon Rugby Club's first international in their 91 years history. He was recently called upon to represent England in the Rugby Union match between England Colts and France Youths in Paris, and has since played for England Under-18's against the Welsh.

Mike was sought after by Middlesbrough FC when he was a 12-year-old, but he turned to Rugby and has proved himself an outstanding scrum-half.

