

# CONTACT

Manweb's monthly newspaper  
for staff and their families.

MID MERSEY LIVERPOOL NORTH MERSEY  
DEE VALLEY HEAD OSWESTRY  
GWYNEDD OFFICE ABERYSTWYTH  
NORTH WIRRAL CLWYD MID CHESHIRE

Vol. 42 No. 1

January 1990



Brookside actresses Jenny Hesketh (left) and Gillian Kearney celebrate the launch of Red Star Brouhaha with a glass of champagne. Jenny, who stars as problem child Louise Mitchell, and Gillian, who played Damon's girlfriend Debbie, are both members of the Playhouse Youth Theatre and were among the guests at the Festival launch.

East joins West for theatre extravaganza

## AN IRON CURTAIN RAISER...

MANWEB has raised the curtain on a major sponsorship package for a youth theatre extravaganza being launched by Liverpool Playhouse. East and West will join together for Red Star Brouhaha, the largest festival of youth drama ever staged in Britain.

For 10 days during April this year, youth theatres from seven Eastern European countries, together with seven national companies from England, Scotland and Wales and five from Merseyside will put on more than 40 performances at the Playhouse.

The Festival, involving more than 300 young people, will also include an extensive programme of educational workshops and discussions.

Manweb Chairman Bryan Weston said: "We are delighted to be the sole sponsor of this exciting initiative, which will place Britain at the forefront of a new East/West cultural and social exchange."

Kate Willard, Associate Director for Youth at the Liverpool Playhouse, and the Festival's Director,

said: "Red Star Brouhaha represents the largest association of Eastern European and British Youth Theatre ever to take place.

"It is an enormous logistic and creative undertaking and we look forward to it in the spirit of challenge and internationalism."

### Celebration

The five Merseyside theatre companies taking part are Liverpool's Catalyst, Everyman Youth and Unity Theatres, Wirral Youth Theatre and St Helens-based Outcast, and representing Wales will be North Powys Youth Theatre, from Welshpool.

The Eastern European countries involved in the Festival are Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, East Germany, Hungary, Poland, the USSR and Yugoslavia.

Kate Willard said: "The Festival is designed to bring young people from Eastern Europe together with young people from the rest of Britain and from Merseyside on a 10-day celebration of theatre alongside an extensive programme of educational workshops and seminars."

## Crackdown on crime launched

by Sam Doughty

A MAJOR crackdown on crime against householders has been launched in Warrington with the backing of Manweb.

Manweb has joined forces with Cheshire Police, Warrington Borough Council and British Gas to launch 'Project 22', focusing on the Longford and Orford districts which have been particularly prone to burglaries.

As part of the campaign, which is the brainchild of local Crime Prevention Officer Det. Sgt. Dave Betts, local authority houses are being fitted with mortice deadlocks on front and rear doors, locks on ground floor and vulnerable upper floor windows and opening lights.

Mid Mersey Customer Accounts Manager Bob Vernon is heading the Manweb team involved in the home security effort. The District is arranging for coin meters, one of the

main targets for burglars, to be replaced by card meters.

In addition, the local home watch, schools, the Victim Support Group and four special constables will all support Community Policeman Ian Ross in improving security on the estate.

It is planned that the scheme will be extended to other council estates in Warrington, again with the backing of Manweb.

Warrington MP Doug Hoyle is pictured (right) trying out a card meter at the launch of the Project 22 campaign. Also pictured (left to right) are the Mayor of Warrington, Councillor George Syers, Community Policeman Ian Ross, and Manweb's Mid Mersey District Manager Des Lock.



New look  
in store

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A double  
celebration

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members  
retire

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## Changing faces

# John joins the financial team

**PRIVATE** sector expertise has been brought into Manweb with the appointment of 43-year-old John Couch as Financial Controller.

Based at Manweb's Chester Head Office, Mr Couch is responsible for mainstream accounting and the provision of corporate accounting services.

A qualified accountant, he has come to Manweb from the Manchester-based paper merchandising and distribution company Alliance Paper Group plc, where he was Group Finance Director.

Mr Couch (pictured), who is married with one son and lives in Bingley, West Yorkshire, previously worked for six years as Controller of the BOC Group's Yorkshire health care manufacturing company Ohmeda, responsible for finance, accounting, computer systems, warehousing and distribution.

Prior to that he spent eight years in other parts of the BOC Group, including Regional Accountant (Gas Services Division), Finance and Administration Manager (Retail Division), and Group Accountant for BOC Healthcare, an international organisation with 18 subsidiaries.

Originally from Aberdeen, Scotland, Mr Couch, who is a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Management Accountants and a Fellow of the Certified



and Corporate Accountants, also spent two years working on strategic planning and investment appraisals with the whisky company Hiram Walker.

He said: "I am very pleased to have joined Manweb at this very exciting time, and am currently working on restructuring the accounting and information systems in anticipation of privatisation."

# Ex-Manweb man Mike clocks off

**FORMER** Manweb employee Mike Caird has taken early retirement from his job as Assistant Personnel Officer with the CEBG at Stockport after 41 years' service in the electricity supply industry.

Mike, whose wife Elaine works for Manweb at Lister Drive, worked for Manweb for 26 years, having started his career as a Junior Clerk at Hatton Garden, Liverpool, in 1948.

Following National Service in the RAF, he joined the old Liverpool North District at Marsh Lane, Bootle, before moving on to Warrington District in 1963.

In 1974 he joined the CEBG at Fiddler's Ferry Power Station, and for the past 14 years has been a member of the Personnel Department based at Europa House.

A keen sportsman in his youth, Mike's main exercise these days is taken on the golf course. He is also a keen supporter of Liverpool FC.



# Retirement should suit Bill down to a tee

**PLANNING** to take up golf in his retirement is Mid Mersey Installation Manager Bill France, who is pictured receiving his farewell gifts from District Manager Des Lock, watched by colleagues.

Bill joined Manweb in 1958 as an Assistant Consumers Engineer (2) in the old Liverpool South District, following three years' National Service in Iraq, Cyprus and Malta.

He moved to Liverpool North District in 1961 as Assistant Consumers Engineer (1), and was promoted again to Consumers Engineer in 1963.

In 1968 Bill, who is married with four children, moved to Liverpool Central District as Assistant District Commercial Engineer.

On reorganisation in 1970, he was designated Installation Engineer, Liverpool District. He stayed there until 1984 when he was seconded to Mid Mersey for 12 months, but at the end of the year he was invited to stay on as Installation Engineer.

Bill, who is also a dancing enthusiast, is a keen fund-raiser in his spare time. A founder member of the Alder Hey Children's Kidney Fund, in 21 years he has brought in £1 million for the charity.

# Non-exec members step down

**THREE** non-executive members found themselves on the agenda when they retired from the Board of Manweb.

John Hooson, John Griffiths and Richard de Zouche are pictured (left to right) receiving framed certificates from Manweb Deputy Chairman Richard Gales (right) during a meeting of the Board.

Mr Griffiths, from Shotton, was awarded an OBE in the 1982 New Year Honours List. A former official of the Transport and General Workers' Union, he works for the Wales TUC on a consultancy basis.

He is also a former member of the Welsh Industrial Development Advisory Board, is a magistrate and member of industrial tribunals, and has served on the Manweb Board since 1981.

Mr Hooson joined the Manweb Board in 1984. A member of the Agricultural Land Tribunal and also the Land Use Panel for Wales, he farms 150 acres at Denbigh, concentrating on beef and sheep production, and is a



past Chairman and President of the Denbigh branch of the National Farmers' Union.

Mr de Zouche, who lives in Neston, Wirral, has also served on the Manweb Board since 1984. He is a partner in the Liverpool firm of chartered accountants, Wilson, de Zouche and McKenzie.

A member of Merseyside Chamber of Commerce, he is currently Honorary Treasurer of the Association of British Chambers of Commerce, a member of the North West Industrial Development Board and the Liverpool Council of Social Services, and Deputy Chairman of the Midlands Building Society. He

received an OBE in the 1987 Birthday Honours List.

Mr Griffiths, Mr Hooson and Mr de Zouche are replaced by three new non-executive Board members - Richard Morgan, 60, of BICC plc, 46-year-old Eryl Morris, of Courtaulds plc, and Glen Nightingale, 50, of Pilkington plc.

# Goodbye and good luck

Friends and colleagues gathered at Mid Mersey District to wish Principal Assistant Jean Seddon good luck on her retirement. Jean, who worked in Customer Accounts, started her career with Manweb in 1950 in a temporary post. The job involved setting up a card index system - a huge task as at that time many appliances, including irons, were hired rather than bought.

The following year she was among a small group of 'temps' who were given permanent posts.

During her time Jean was involved in all the account billingsystems introduced by Manweb, and played a part in the transition from a machine accounting system to a computer punch card system, and finally to a fully fledged computer billing

system in 1973.

She became a Supervisor in 1974 and an Administration Assistant two years later, and was promoted to Principal Assistant early in 1989.

Jean is pictured receiving her retirement gifts from District Manager Des Lock, surrounded by colleagues.





# Double send off

LOOKING forward to well-earned retirements are Financial Manager Peter Falcon and Appliance Marketing Manager Warwick Saunders.

Educated at Oldershaw Grammar School Wallasey, Mr. Falcon (56) joined Manweb in 1958 as a Costing Assistant in Liverpool having previously worked at the Capenhurst atomic energy establishment.

After an accountancy traineeship he joined the personnel section in 1961, rising to become Executive Officer in non-industrial staff relations and recruitment, and was among the first staff at the Chester Head Office when it was opened in 1969.

From 1975 Mr. Falcon was District Administration Officer in Mid-Cheshire, before moving to Liverpool in 1976, again as DAO.

In 1979 he returned to Head Office as Financial Manager (expenditure and stores), with responsibility for Pensions and Payroll, Cash, Creditors, Management Accounts and Stores, including Queensferry.

Mr. Falcon is a member of the Chartered Institute of Cost and Management Accountants and the Chartered Institute of Secretaries and Administrators. He is a former captain of the Manweb Golf Society as well as a member of Leasowe Golf Club and the Syd Lawrence Music Society.

Mr. Falcon and wife Jane have three daughters, and he plans to spend his retirement travelling, playing golf, researching the big band period, walking and riding the bicycle which he chose as one of his retirement gifts.

Appliance Marketing Manager Warwick Saunders (63) joined



Manweb in 1975 from Clarks Shoes subsidiary, Peter Lord in Street, Somerset, where he was Operations Director.

He developed Manweb's retailing activities to become a profitable area of the Board's activity, with a strong emphasis on management accounting and cost control.

In 1979 Mr. Saunders spent an eight month secondment in Mid-Cheshire as District Commercial Engineer, before returning to Head Office.

Originally from St. Helens, he was educated at the town's Cowley School and Manchester University, where he received a BA honours degree in history. He is a former university rugby captain and Lancashire player.

An avid golfer, Mr. Saunders is a past captain of the Manweb Golf Society and a member of Upton Golf Club. He and wife Brenda live in Upton-by-Chester, and have a grown up son and daughter.

Deputy Chairman Richard Gales is pictured (left) wishing Mr. Falcon (right) and Mr. Saunders happy retirements in a presentation at Head Office, where among other gifts each received a midi system.

## Oswestry loses Sid

**OSWESTRY** Office Manager Sid Warburton has taken early retirement due to ill health after clocking up 40 years' service with the electricity supply industry.

Former local football referee Sid, 62, who is married with a son, started his career in 1949 as a Stores Clerk at Welshpool and the following year was appointed Storekeeper/Clerk until 1964.

He became a Clerical Assistant in Consumer Accounts in 1970 and in 1973 became the District Administrative Assistant in General Services, later becoming Office Manager.

Ian Moul, Principal Assistant in Creditors, Head Office, is to take over as Office Manager.



Director, Trading, Mr Peter Hopkins said he was very pleased to welcome Mr Sharkey to his team.

"He has joined Manweb at a very exciting time, when we have just undertaken a major shop modernisation programme, and we are also introducing a new computer-based appliance retailing system (MERAS) into the shops."

## Trading team is now complete

**Manweb's Head Office Trading team is now complete following the appointment of 36-year-old Paul Sharkey as Shop Operations Manager-designate.**

Mr Sharkey (right), who will be responsible for Manweb's 58 shops and a staff of around 350, will replace Bill Wakelin, who is retiring at the end of March, 1990, after 41 years' service. The two men are now working closely together.

Married with two children, Devon-born Mr Sharkey, who now lives in Wistaston, near Crewe, has experience in four areas of retailing - food, furniture, D-I-Y and electrical - both in the High Street and out-of-town superstores.

He has come to Manweb after four-and-a-half years with Rumbelows, where he started off as Area Manager for Manchester, later becoming Senior Area Manager, with responsibility for the north of England, and finally Regional Manager for Merseyside and North Wales.

He previously worked for the Axe Discount Food Stores chain as Area Manager for the South West, following three years with Focus Homecentres as General Manager, covering Exeter, Stoke on Trent and Hartlepool, and prior to that was Relief Deputy Manager with MFI, based in Exeter.

# Shh... it's 1990

**THE signs are that 1990 is likely to be a very peaceful year. Apart from any other reason, this is because new legislation came into force on January 1 to prevent damage to hearing at work from noise!**

The new regulations are called the Noise at Work Regulations 1989 and include a general duty to reduce the risk of damage to hearing to the lowest level reasonably practicable.

What does this mean? How do we reduce the risk of damage to our hearing, and what damage will excessive noise cause?

The ear consists of three principal areas - the outer, middle and inner ear. In the main, the regulations are concerned with the inner ear, where damage due to high noise levels is likely to have a lasting effect. This damage does not usually result in complete deafness, but rather a muffled effect on hearing with a general non-clarity of sound and a tendency to be over affected by background noise - a very frustrating condition.

Perhaps the most difficult aspect of this type of damage is that the effects take place gradually over several years, without the injured person being aware of the problem until it is too late.

The new regulations specify two noise levels at which certain steps have to be taken. These are levels which are averaged over the working day although the regulations also include a peak instantaneous level.

The first action level is roughly equivalent to not being able to hear conversation at a distance of approximately two metres. The second level is higher and requires more stringent measures on

**by Derek Jackson,  
1st Engineer,  
Safety Section**

the part of the employer, although it is important to note that in line with the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974, under which the regulations are written, there are duties imposed on the employee also.

In many ways, the only way to reduce exposure to noise is by the wearing of personal ear defenders, although the regulations do regard this as a last resort. Manufacturers have a duty to reduce noise in the design of their equipment.

Initially much of the effort in applying the regulations will be directed toward identifying those areas where noise is a problem, and then carrying out a systematic and accurate assessment of the levels involved. Some of you, as a result of these surveys, will be asked to wear hearing protection. Please co-operate. It is YOUR hearing you are protecting.

It is perhaps a good time to remember that noise sources extend beyond the work place to the home, particularly in the area of entertainment. Personal radios, tape players and discos, if used excessively and at too high a level, are all capable of causing permanent damage. The effects may not be realised until many years later.

The new regulations, I am sure, will have a beneficial effect, not only for this year, but for many years to come.

## Retirement round-up

### Busy Year

**MID Cheshire Retired Employees Association is holding its 16th Annual General Meeting on Wednesday, March 28, at 2.30pm in the District Office, Macon Way, Crewe. Members and others who are interested in joining the association are welcome to attend.**

It has been a busy year for the group, and during the current financial year they have visited the Blacksmith's Forge at Welsh Frankton, the Nautical Catering College in Liverpool, and Southport.

In June members toured the beautiful city of Lincoln, and the following month they cruised along the River



Weaver and learned a little about Vale Royal history.

An additional outing was a scenic trip to the Stwlan Dam Ffestiniog in August, and in September members visited the Boots factory in Nottingham, but the highlight was undoubtedly the week long holiday in Folkestone in early October.

The annual social - the Association's 100th function - was held at the Rolls Royce club in Crewe, and

some of those who attended are pictured enjoying a few drinks.

Another diary date for members is the Annual Lunch, which will be held at the Hunters Lodge, Crewe, on Wednesday, March 14.

Anyone interested in joining the Association should contact the Secretary, Mrs. N. Lythgoe, 167 Westminster Street, Crewe, CW2 7LE.



**IAN Ledson, Chairman of the North Mersey LJCC, presents a crystal bowl to former Appliance Repair Foreman Alec Cannon, who recently celebrated his 90th birthday and 25 years of retirement. Many of Alec's former colleagues, also retired, plus District Manager David Price, Office Manager Len Cornah and several LJCC officers, attended a special lunch at Bridle Road.**



# Consumer chairman on fact-finding visit

**THE Chairman of the new electricity Consumers' Committee for Merseyside and North Wales has spent a day at Manweb on a fact-finding mission.**

Mr Charles Myers toured Head Office and met some of the key people he will be working with in his new role, including Regulator Relations Manager Mike Metcalfe and Board Secretary Nick Williams.

During his visit, Mr Myers was shown around Manweb's System Operation Centre, which controls the local electricity network, and the Engineering Exhibition, where he saw examples of technical developments to

increase energy efficiency.

He also looked at Manweb's Customer Accounting operation where he was briefed by Head of Income and Accounting Alan Wadcock and his senior staff on meter reading, debt collection and theft of electricity.

Regulator Relations Manager Mike Metcalfe said: "Mr Myers has only recently been appointed Chairman of the Consumers' Committee and his visit to Manweb was to familiarise himself

with the industry.

"He will also be visiting our North Wirral District later this month as part of this familiarisation process, when he will meet some of the staff who regularly deal with customers. His visit will include a trip to one of our shops."

Mr Myers, JP, who lives in Hoylake, Wirral, is Managing Director of the John Lewis Partnership branch, George Henry Lee, in Liverpool. He is also



Vice-Chairman of Merseyside Chamber of Commerce.

His role as Chairman of the Consumers' Committee, which replaces the Consultative Council, is to investigate and adjudicate on customer complaints.

Pictured visiting the System

Operation Centre are (back row l-r) Regulator Relations Manager Mike Metcalfe, System Operation Manager Colin Ridley, Board Secretary Nick Williams, Charles Myers and (seated) Control Engineer Brian Rogers.

## EEIBA draw

THE lucky number 1448 won retired employee E. D. Kelly the top prize of £300 in the EEIBA November draw. The other winners were as follows:

£200 - A. D. Stewart, retired (2036), £150 - R. Burgoyne, retired (1983), £100 - A. J. Hughes, Head Office (393), £75 - C. M. Jackson, retired (1703) and W. R. Roberts, retired (1660), £50 - A. M. Boyer, Mid Cheshire (693), D. Wallace, retired (1508) and B. Morris, Dee Valley (677), £30 - T. Larkin, retired (2216), R. A. Andrews, Head Office (2460) and C. F. Edwards, Head Office (1108), £25 - M. W. Glover, Head Office (392), G. Ball, retired (2348), I. Greenhalgh, retired (1385), H. Hassall, retired (1969), I. K. Walsh, retired (1439), J. M. Townsend, Head Office (642), M. J. Smith, retired (2266) and C. Roberts, Dee Valley (1007).

## Obituary

IT is with sadness that Contact reports the deaths of the following retired employees.

**LOUIS CHARLES SIEBERT**, 70, died on October 24. He retired at Mid Mersey in 1984 and worked as a General Duties Assistant.

**WILLIAM HAROLD SENIOR**, 81, was a Joiner at Northwich until he retired in 1971. He died on November 2.

**ROBERT JOSEPH FROST**, 86, died on November 10. He was an Assistant (Costs) until his retirement in 1963 at Area 1.

**ELLIS ELWYN REES**, 72, retired in 1982 at Gwynedd, where he was a Joiner. He died on November 12.

**BENTLEY ALFRED HARDCASTLE**, 69, died November 20. He retired in 1983 at North Wirral, where he was a Joiner.

**WILLIAM HAROLD HUGHES**, 62, was an Electrician's Mate at Wrexham until he retired in 1970. He died on November 25.

**FRANK HOLLAND**, 68, died on November 25. He retired in 1986 at Head Office, where he was a 2nd Engineer.

**CHARLES E. STUART MURDOCH**, 83, was a Joiner at Liverpool until he retired in 1970. He died on November 25.

**THOMAS TAYLOR**, 73, died on November 27. He was an Electrician at Dee Valley until he retired in 1980.

**NAN KIRKHAM**, 69, was an Administrative Assistant at Mid Mersey until her retirement in 1979. She died on November 27.

**RICHARD JOHN SUTTON**, 89, retired in 1965 at Area 1, where he worked as a Bricklayer's Mate. He died on November 30.

**HARRY BERTRAM GEARY**, 76, died on December 2. He was a Plumber at Liverpool until he retired in 1976.

**WILLIAM HENRY STEGING**, 80, was a Fitter's Mate at North Mersey until he retired in 1976. He died on December 5.

**ROBERT RAYMOND McDONNELL**, 73, died on December 8. He retired in 1981 at Liverpool, where he worked as a Meter Tester.

**GEORGE WESTON**, 82, retired in 1972 at Liverpool, where he was a Storekeeper. He died on December 12.

**SARAH ELIZABETH THOMASON**, 88, died on December 12. She retired in 1961 at Area 2, where she was a Clerk.

**JOHN DOCHERTY**, 90, retired in 1965 at Area 1, where he worked as a Joiner. He died on December 12.

**ARTHUR ELCOCK**, 77, who died on December 13, was a Plumber at Liverpool until he retired in 1971.

**JOHN LEWIS WILLIAMS**, 86, former Oswestry District Manager until his retirement in 1968, died on December 17.

**JOHN RODNEY GREEN**, 73, who died on December 18, was a Chauffeur at Head Office until he retired in 1978.

**ALFRED WOODS**, 76, died on December 21. He was a 3rd Engineer at North Wirral until he retired in 1978.

**MARGARET JOYCE ROBINSON**, 63, was a Telephonist at Dee Valley until she retired in 1986. She died on December 25.

**JOSEPH TUDOR HOOSON OWEN**, 75, died on December 25. He was a 1st Engineer at Liverpool until he retired in 1978.

**ALBERT TAYLOR**, 84, who died on December 27, retired in 1969 at North Wirral, where he was a Mechanical Fitter.

**EDWIN PATRICK FAGAN**, 72, was a Driver at Clwyd until he retired in 1982. He died on December 30.

**ROBERT WILLIAMS**, 75, died on December 31. He was a Mate at Gwynedd until he retired in 1972.

**NORMAN ELLIS BRADLEY JONES**, 80, who died on January 2, was a Commercial Purchasing Officer at Head Office until he retired in 1971.

**REGINALD BURGESS WHITFIELD**, 69, was a Clerical Assistant at Mid Mersey until he retired in 1981. He died on January 3.

**ARTHUR JOHN CLIFFE**, 90, who died on January 5, retired in 1964 at Area 4, where he was a Labourer.

**GEORGE JAMES BULMER**, 84, was the District Commercial Engineer at Area 1 until he retired in 1968. He died on January 5.

**ARTHUR ROWLAND**, 79, who died on January 5, was a Driver at Mid Cheshire until he retired in 1972.

## Need help? Dial 182...

MANWEB'S computer users who run into problems can now send out an SOS to the new Data Centre Help Desk, based at Head Office.

Manned by a three-strong team specially recruited from the districts, the Help Desk was created to provide a fast and efficient 'help line' for all Information Services users during



normal office hours.

Outside normal office hours the Data Centre provides a second level help-line manned by Computer Operations Staff.

The Help Desk is situated in

the Operational Bridge area deep within the heart of the Data Centre and can be contacted by direct dialling on internal 182 from Head Office or any district office. District

staff DO NOT need to dial the Head Office prefix code.

Pictured above is the Help Desk team, from left to right, Di Clarke, Chris Williams and Supervisor Sue Davies.



## MP meets staff at Prenton

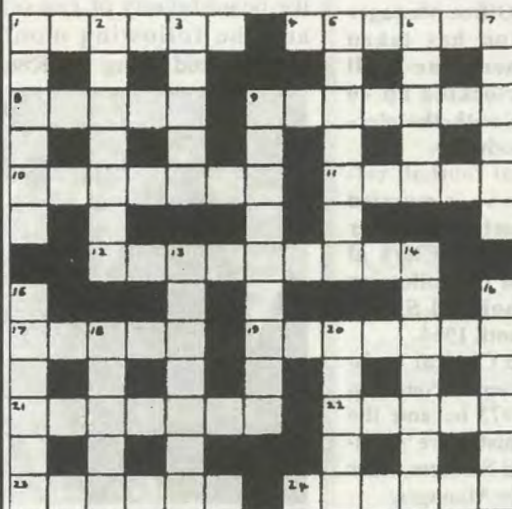
BIRKENHEAD MP Frank Field (2nd left) chats with North Wirral Debt Counsellor Sheila Golborne during his recent tour of the District office.

Mr Field was invited to tour the Prenton-based office by District Manager Geoff Abel, who briefed him on Manweb's customer accounting operation, payment methods and theft of electricity.

The MP was particularly interested in the District's involvement with the local community and the links that have been forged with Wirral schools, and also the efforts being made to employ disabled people.

Also pictured is North Wirral Customer Accounts Manager Edna Holroyd and District Manager Geoff Abel.

## Crossword number 17



### Across

- Capital as shown about the relevant time (6), 4. Not viewed as punishment (6), 8. Pound to beat (5), 9. Mr. Nigel the devious mischief-maker (7), 10. He's nice perhaps but sort of crackers (7), 11. Number one joining the company (5), 12. Leave an egg having returned in a car (9), 17. Domestic cover (5), 19. In trouble having lost contact (7), 21. Went back after a lifetime's work maybe (7), 22. Sign that it's all right to be among the number (5), 23. Supporter of regular journalism (6), 24. Ward off man in the shade wanting too much (6).

### Down

- Advance putting an end to combat manoeuvre (6), 2. Artist set-up in which difficulty provides a point of departure (7), 3. Distinguished by a good rise over the French (5), 5. It might keep you going once you've started (7), 6. He's possibly riled at having nothing to do (5), 7. The difference between Tarzan and Jane (6), 9. Looking rather old to follow one in a race (9), 13. Paddy Brown on the blower - get off, darling! (7), 14. Something blue might be near this joint (7), 15. Almost wealthy after a marvellous start - that's the stuff! (6), 16. Not getting stout at a pub in heaven! (6), 18. Something like a badger seen later to be different (5), 20. A day becomes a long time when one's chasing women! (5).

Solution - page 8

## CORNWALL HOLIDAYS

Caravans and Chalets overlooking St. Austell Bay. Bar and Shop on Site.

Pets welcome.

For brochures or further details phone Ian at:

THE MOUNT HOLIDAY PARK  
PAR PL24 2BZ  
Telephone: 072 681 2616



**Graeme Cooper continues his series of special features on Manweb's structure.**

**Reporting to Deputy Chairman Richard Gales Manweb's five Corporate Services provide essential support for the three main business divisions and Manweb's corporate functions.**

Corporate Services' costs will be allocated to the main business divisions and some specific services will be provided on a paid-for basis, as they would by outside companies.

The services comprise the Board Secretary's

(Company Secretary Designate) department, Human Resources, Information Services, Management Services and Public Relations.

These departments were previously accommodated within the Secretarial and Financial divisions, apart

from Human Resources (then the smaller Personnel Department) which formed a separate department.

Some duties have been transferred to different services, and Administrative Services Manager Tom Hamilton is now working on special projects reporting

# People in profile

## Corporate Services

directly to the Deputy Chairman.

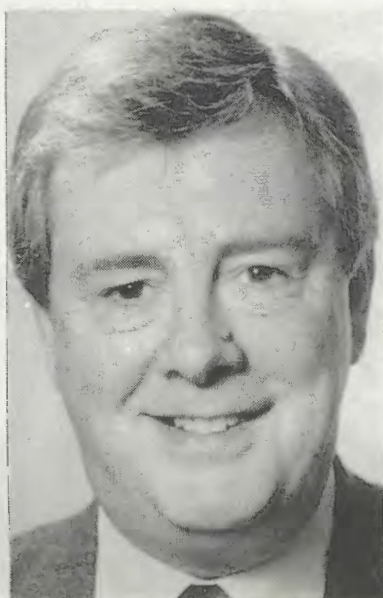
As well as being grouped under a collective banner, the

Corporate Services have been restructured to meet the new demands of a privatised Manweb.

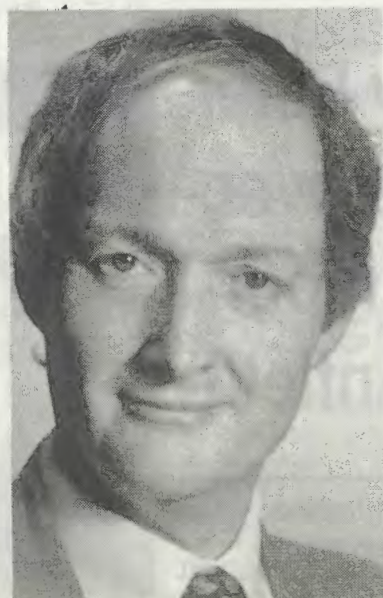
**Next month:  
Financial  
Department**



**Company Secretary Designate (Board Secretary) - Nick Williams**



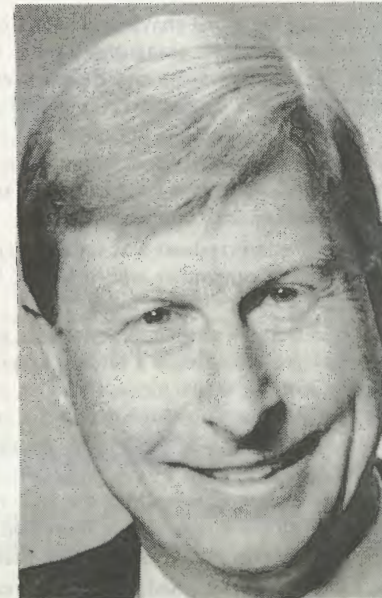
**Head of Information Services - John Peaker**



**Head of Management Services - Philip Walker**



**Head of Public Relations - Joy King**



**Head of Human Resources - David Vernon-Smith**

ENSURING that Manweb conforms with its many legal obligations and requirements is Company Secretary Designate, Nick Williams. He coordinates the Board's activities, supplying expert legal advice and counselling on how legislation applies to Manweb, ensuring a smooth transition to plc status.

"Board Secretary is a statutory appointment, and together with the Board members, I have certain statutory obligations to make sure we meet our responsibilities," says Nick Williams.

The law stating these responsibilities was changed by the 1989 Electricity Act, and although some of the fine detail is being worked out centrally for all the Boards, the Secretary's department needs to examine all the legal implications to ensure Manweb's interests are fully represented.

"The legal situation has changed beyond recognition," says Nick Williams. "The Act has replaced existing legislation, some of which dates from as long ago as 1847. Not only from the legal point of view are rules changing in relation to privatisation but all the law relating to our daily business such as wayleaves and meters has changed. Everything has been revised and incorporated in the Act."

The Legal section, headed by Board Solicitor David Linton, reports to the Secretary, and deals with all the aspects of Manweb's work - everything from metering to pre-flotation document vetting.

Manweb's compliance with the Supply Licences is the specific responsibility of Regulator Relations Manager, Mike Metcalfe, who will handle all Manweb's communications with The Regulator as well as ensuring Manweb complies with Codes of Practice and other requirements.

Assistant Board Secretary Don Kilgallon too is closely involved in privatisation. In addition to Head Office Administration and the Queensferry Stores his area of responsibility includes the new roles of seeing that the future plc conforms with the Companies Act and stock exchange requirements.

Ensuring that Manweb has the correct buildings and facilities to operate as a plc is Property Services Manager, Doug Swire. The department was created by the merger of Estates with sections of Civil Engineering, making land acquisition, building and maintenance one comprehensive service.

As with Manweb as a whole, the restructuring within the Secretary's department is designed to give Manweb the best internal structure to meet its requirements under the Electricity Act.

INFORMATION Services headed by John Peaker caters for Manweb's information needs, covering such areas as printing, mailing and telephony as well as the data centre at Chester, which houses the Board's central mainframe computer.

"Essentially Information Services' organisation is fairly simple," says John Peaker. "Business Systems Manager Martin Bazeley heads a team of business analysts and programmers who serve the main divisions and Corporate Services. The data centre itself and support services are under the control of Data Centre Manager, Peter Goulding."

Martin Bazeley's team consists of Dave Croston, responsible for Customer Accounting systems, Dewi Jones, in charge of systems for Power Marketing Contracts, Tariffs and Energy Marketing, and Colin Brocklebank, responsible for Network Services. Joe Caldwell looks after Trading's needs, while Brian Sheppard is responsible for Financial and Corporate requirements. Personal Computing is Geoff Barden's responsibility.

Each of these managers is responsible for developing computer-based systems to meet the needs of his users. Applications are developed for mainframe, mini and micro computers, including hand-held terminals. The wider use of computers is also supported throughout the Board by personal computing and office systems services.

Peter Goulding's Data Centre team are Computer Operations Manager Mike Gibbs, Operations Support Manager, Dave Griffin, Software Services Manager Joe Pugh, Communications Network Manager John Birch and Data Centre Consultant Mike Edwards.

Data Centre staff are dedicated to providing a high quality, cost-effective range of services - a demanding task in an environment handling in excess of half a million on-line transactions per day and where 250 additions and changes to systems are made each week.

Also under Peter Goulding is Support Services Manager, Hugh Baker, in charge of central typing and printing services, switchboard and mailing, all of which are making increasing use of computer technology.

Information Services is backed up by a support group: Strategic Planning and Service Manager Alan Sampson who is responsible for liaising with users on service levels and satisfaction with systems, and Business Accounting Manager John Rogers, who will allocate costs and charge for services in a similar role to the main business divisions' Business Unit Accountants.

"Information services was formed to give a total information service, meeting the Board's needs in a comprehensive way," says John Peaker. "We need to give an agreed level of service at an agreed cost, and we stand or fall on that."

LED by Philip Walker, Management Services provides Manweb with an expert management resource to give advice and support on management and operational planning in all the Board's areas of activity.

The department has a strong background in industrial engineering and project work, and Philip Walker explains this must be developed as Manweb's requirements expand to operate in the private sector.

"We've got to ensure we have the skills to match Manweb's needs," he says. "We will be offering an internal management consultancy to the whole of Manweb, which is taking on new activities and seeking improvements in efficiency. There is a real incentive for Management Services to use this opportunity."

A client service charter setting out the quality of service provided by the department is being prepared, and in relation to specific projects Philip Walker stresses the importance of defining goals and agreeing costs with those using the service.

Reporting to him are two Project Managers - Don McRae and Bill Matthews, who is covering the position temporarily.

As well as reacting to requests for support the Project Managers are also proactive, identifying areas within Manweb where Management Services could help in increasing efficiency or making savings.

About half of the 30-strong Management Services team of Senior Consultants and project assistants is engaged on a long-term operational efficiency programme, which is having results. "But there are no magic solutions," stresses Philip Walker. "Whatever we achieve is in conjunction with local management."

Management Services personnel can draw on their experiences of a range of Manweb activities and include staff on secondment from other departments.

The staff themselves are frequently on assignments at District Offices, where they can be on the spot to lend their skills and support, and are currently involved in projects in North Mersey, North Wirral and Dee Valley as well as at Head Office.

"Management Services has a good reputation within Manweb and we are building on the expertise we have in the department," says Philip Walker. "We are here to meet the needs of Manweb, and can only continue to do this by developing our professionalism as an in-house consultancy."

MANWEB'S image amongst the people and organisations it comes into contact with is the responsibility of Head of Public Relations Joy King.

"Our work is all about developing relationships, helping create a favourable environment in which Manweb can operate successfully," she says.

Developing and maintaining this environment involves communication and liaison with both national and local media, staff, customers, community groups, government, civil servants and many other organisations.

In the future Manweb will also have to consider its relationship with the City and shareholders, with the need to communicate results and hold Annual General Meetings.

As an area electricity board Manweb has close relationships with the businesses and communities which are its customers. Supporting enterprise trusts, arts sponsorships, education and charities gives Manweb an opportunity to build on these relationships and put something back into the community it depends on.

But it isn't just purposely designed events that influence how Manweb is perceived. All the Board's activities have an impact on how the organisation is judged, and the Public Relations team works closely with the Executive and staff throughout Manweb, advising on public relations implications and opportunities to promote Manweb. The department has three Public Relations Officers, Sam Doughty, Gaynor Kenyon and Jackie Unsworth, and Assistant Public Relations Officer Graeme Cooper.

A corporate advertising campaign is being produced to raise the profile of Manweb in the region through posters, press and radio. Public Relations is also responsible for producing internal and external corporate publications, including the corporate brochure, the annual report and accounts and Contact.

Communications with staff is vitally important - increasingly so as Manweb undergoes changes in preparation for privatisation. The New Perspectives video series was produced in a form to encourage two-way communications, with staff submitting questions following video screenings. Information is regularly updated with the Privatisation Prospects news sheets and bulletin, although this is proving difficult with present procedures for document vetting. Staff opinions have also been sought via a MORI poll so their views can be taken into account in the decision making process.

HEAD of Human Resources David Vernon-Smith is responsible for ensuring Manweb has the people it needs, that they have the necessary skills and training and that they are able to work to the best of their ability.

The new department, which employs 70 staff, has a wider scope than that covered by the earlier Personnel Department, incorporating Training and Development, Pensions and Payroll from the Financial section and Welfare from Secretarial.

"Basically we're a service to the main businesses. Our whole reason to exist is to assist them," says David Vernon-Smith.

The department works closely with the divisions and other Corporate Services to establish their requirements for personnel and training, which are changing as Manweb moves towards plc status.

"Conditions will be different and people will need to know and understand the changed requirements of a free-standing plc. We're trying to see issues as far ahead as possible and come up with workable solutions," says David Vernon-Smith.

The Human Resources 'boilerhouse' is Personnel Services, managed by Martin Kay, which looks after manpower planning, recruitment, personnel records and personnel administration.

Policy Development Manager Don Roxburgh is responsible for developing new ideas and initiatives and is consolidating Manweb's personnel records into a comprehensive database.

Much information is held by Pensions and Payroll, which is the responsibility of Mike Davis' section, currently reporting directly to David Vernon-Smith. Restructuring is taking place which will bring Pensions and Payroll into an enlarged Personnel Services department with an overall manager still to be appointed.

Industrial Relations are Staff Relations Advisers George Bent and George Harrison's responsibility, while Welfare Services, under Manager Jim Wilcock, deals with medical as well as welfare matters.

All Training and Development are the responsibility of Manager David Mellor. Both the Hoylake and the Head Office training centres report to him and he deals with all clerical, supervisory, management and craft apprentice training as well as training in skills which will help Manweb plc.

"We've been studying the Divisions' business plans to see what they mean in terms of people and skills, and whether we need to retrain or recruit," says David Vernon-Smith. "We've got to make sure our human resources function properly, because the thing which will make this business successful is the people."



Post Bag



## This washer is a clean winner

Dear Editor,

MANY moons ago - I think it was during the year the wheel was invented - I arrived home from the office to be greeted by my wife, who said: "Jim, the washing machine's on the blink".

Fearing the worst (having to spend money) I said I'd arrange for somebody to come along and have a look at it. This I did, to be told by the man from the Board that the machine was beyond redemption and would have to be replaced.

As I had three young children, I realised I wouldn't have time to scour the scrap yards and second hand shops of Cheshire, searching for a good second hand machine, so there was nothing else for it - I would have to buy a new one.

I made enquiries and was told that an "Electra GL2" was a good buy. I can't remember who told me, but whoever it was, he was guilty of gross understatement.

The Electra was a super, excellent buy. A few years ago I had somebody out to give it a bit of a service. I was told nothing goes wrong with these machines, they just go on and on. Well, the one I've got has certainly done that and is continuing to do so.

However, as I now have three grown up offsprings - a son who has more shirts than I have pairs of socks (I have a lot of socks) and two daughters who think the only reason for going out to work is to obtain the means to buy more and more clothes - the poor old Electra receives more hammer now than it ever did.

I realise that all good things must come to an end and that the old Electra must expire sometime. I appeal to the powers that be to dig out the old plans, dust them off and set up the production line again so that when the sad day dawns, when my old Electra gives up the ghost and chugs its last, I'll be able to buy another one.

**J. B. Davies**  
retired (ex-Wayleaves)  
158 Chester Road, Whitby  
South Wirral.

## Drop us a line

DO you have a view you'd like to share or an opinion you'd like to air? Then why not drop us a line?

Write to: The Editor, Contact, Room 5E1, Manweb, Sealand Road, Chester, CH1 4LR, and make sure you include your name and address, or work location. All letters are dealt with in strict confidence and your name can, upon request, be withheld.

## Honour for ex-Board member

A former non-executive member of the Manweb Board has been awarded an honorary degree from the University of Wales, Cardiff.

THE award of an M.A. (Master of Arts) to Mr Tom Jones, who served on the Board between 1976 and 1980, is in recognition of his contribution to Welsh public life, particularly the Trade Union movement.

A former coal miner, Mr Jones was a full-time official of the Transport and General Workers Union for many years, and was the union's Regional Secretary for Wales between 1969 and 1973.

He served as a soldier in the Spanish Republican Army (International Brigade) in 1937/38, when he was captured by Franco forces and

sentenced to death. This was later commuted to 30 years' imprisonment, but Mr Jones was released following representations from the British Government.

A former member of the Welsh Economic Council, the Welsh Council, the University of Wales Court, Prince of Wales Committee, Welsh Board for Industry, Welsh Industrial Estates Corporation and many more organisations, Mr Jones, now 82, was awarded a CBE in 1974 and in the same year became a Knight of Order of Loyalty, Spanish Republic.

# Manweb's services are promoted to region Major advert campaign is launched

MANWEB is launching a new corporate advertising campaign to promote its services to the region. Richard Gales, Manweb's Managing Director, introduces the campaign and looks at the reasons behind it.

"On February 1, Manweb is to launch a region-wide advertising campaign publicising the strength of our business. The advertising will appear in the local press, on posters throughout our region and on radio.

"Advertising is an important tool to tell all our customers about the services we provide and the depth of skills and experience of our staff. The research we have done recently shows our customers are not as aware as we would like

of the services available to them. While we are held in very high regard by customers, we don't want to be taken for granted.

"For all these reasons we have decided to embark upon what I hope you will agree is an entertain-

ing and worthwhile project which will strengthen our competitive position in all areas and reassure our customers that they get the best service from Manweb. This will be the message to domestic and business customers alike."

## Why Peter was over the moon at Anfield

by Jackie Unsworth

A young boy's dream came true during the photo-session at Liverpool Football Club.

George Range, who features in the poster (below), asked if his soccer-mad son Peter, 12, could accompany him to Anfield, and during a break in the shoot the lucky lad was allowed to have a kick-about with a football on the famous pitch.

### Goal

The highlight was when Peter, who has supported Liverpool FC for most of his life, booted the ball into the back of the net.

Photographer Howard Grey had borrowed the football from the supporters' club, and the



Having a ball . . . Photographer Howard Grey with soccer-mad Peter Range and his dad George, who features in one of the corporate advertising posters.

Warrington schoolboy could hardly believe his luck in following in the footsteps of soccer heroes Ian Rush and Peter Beardsley.

Len Lawton, Valin Pollen's Creative Director, said: "The lad was dying to play football at Anfield so Howard borrowed a ball.

"I went in goal and we were having a bit of a kick around, when Peter kicked the ball into the net. He was absolutely made up."

Unknown to Peter and his dad George, a 1st Engineer in Mains, Liverpool District, Len later bought the football but

forgot to tell the youngster.

"When we realised what had happened, we made a promise to Peter to get the football back. After all, it was a very special ball. He had scored a goal at Liverpool with it!" said Len.

### Reunited

All's well that ends well, and Peter was later reunited with his super souvenir.

George Range said: "I went back to Anfield and explained what had happened. Peter was over the moon when he got the ball back and has since returned to the ground to have it autographed by all the players.

## Manweb's local heroes

MANWEB's strength is its staff. So what better place to look for ideas for a region-wide advertising campaign than within Manweb itself?

Our advertising agency, Valin Pollen was asked to consider how best to show Manweb as experienced and expert yet friendly and approachable. The answer - our local heroes.

The forthcoming poster and press advertising will feature a number of staff from various districts who do jobs that typify the wide range of services that Manweb provides.

The advertisements show the members of staff chosen for the photographs pictured in their various work environments with a headline for each ad stressing, in a humorous way, the experience and expertise they bring to their jobs.

We will also be hearing some radio advertisements soon, playing from February 1 on Radio City and Marcher Sound. Whilst, it would have been very difficult to have members of staff in the radio commercials, the humorous element of the campaign has been retained.

He's lit up Anfield more often than Ian Rush.



GEORGE RANGE, DISTRIBUTION ENGINEER, LIVERPOOL DISTRICT

**Manweb** Trust us to find a better solution



**He's delivered more lines up mountains than Maria von Trapp.**



GRAHAM SMITH, DISTRIBUTION ENGINEER, CLWYD DISTRICT

**Manweb** Trust us to find a better solution

## Picking the right photographer for the job

TYPICALLY each photograph took a day to shoot. Len Lawton, the Valin Pollen Creative Director said: "One of the most important decisions with this kind of operation is the choice of photographer. There are so many variables that you need to choose someone who is going to deliver the shot you want - whatever happens."

"That's why I chose Howard Grey. He's somebody you can throw into an unknown situation and still get the shot."

**"You need to choose someone who will deliver the shot - whatever happens"**

"For instance, when we went to reconnoitre the locations suggested for the Welsh shot, the whole area was covered in fog and so the day we turned up was actually the first day we really saw what we were going to photograph."

"In fact, there was the lake and a rock just where we needed it. Maybe you make your own luck!"

"At Anfield we faced a different problem when the portable generator we always use on location burnt out the strobe flash unit and left us without a light source."

"Naturally enough Man-

web came to our rescue and we hooked up to a reliable supply from an ordinary 13 amp plug, 50 yards away."

"One thing that Anfield had in common with the Wirral was the cold. Everyone behind the camera was snugly wrapped up in their cold weather gear, but George and Jim were standing around in their ordinary clothes. I know I wouldn't have changed places with them!"

"But the truth is that we couldn't have done anything without them, or Angela, John and Phil - they were the real heroes. Local heroes."

## Starring roles for our staff

THERE will be three posters: the first about cable laying in the mountains of North Wales featuring Graham Smith of Clwyd District; the second about contracting, featuring Jim Briggs of North Wirral District; and the third with George Range of Liverpool District maintaining supply to the floodlights at Anfield.

The press advertisements, appearing in black and white follow the theme of the posters, with Angela Coulton of Mid Mersey demonstrating how Manweb deals with customers' telephone enquiries, John Appleton of North Mersey District in a customer's factory where Manweb has helped improve energy efficiency, and Phil Bridgewater of Dee Valley, who is responsible for erecting poles.

And if your district or division hasn't been covered by the ads yet - don't worry. The campaign will be continuing through 1990 covering all Manweb's activities and featuring more of our local heroes.

**On the Wire**



## Dear Santa . . .

STAFF at North Mersey are wondering if Father Christmas got what was intended for Manweb in his mailsack during December?

The little girl who sent Santa a letter in a pre-paid Manweb envelope, which duly dropped through the letterbox at Bridle Road, certainly got her wires crossed, but hopefully she wasn't too disappointed on Christmas morning. The letter (spelling errors hers, not mine!) read as follows:

*Dear Father Christmas,*

I hope you have had a very good year making all the toys for us. I will leave some caruts for all your raindeers and you a class of wiskey to keep you warm and some After Eights for your elves. It was my bithday last week.

I would like for Christmas pleas a pear of roller boots, a tipwriter and a feed me game.

*Love from Beth  
p.s. happy Christmas.*

## Their neighbours are the greatest

HUNDREDS of nominations poured in when Manweb joined forces with the Daily Post and Marcher Sound to launch the Great Neighbours competition.

With the trip of a lifetime to Australia at stake, Manweb customers were invited to give their reasons why the people next door are the greatest.

Judging is soon to take place, and some of the competition entries have been a real eye-opener. Here's a selection.

One customer said his elderly neighbour was the greatest because "She is a saver of electricity. Instead of using

hers...she calls on us and uses ours."

Another wrote: "They're our only chance of getting to Australia".

But the one that really takes the biscuit is the one from the customer who said of her neighbour: "He is always there to help - whether it's burying a dead horse or pulling a chicken's neck!"

## Sainsbury cooks up a challenge for young chefs

Is there a talented young cook in your family? The search is on for contenders in the Sainsbury's Young Cook of Britain competition.

Children aged between nine and 15 are being invited to think up suitable dishes to serve to a cook or chef of their choice, and at stake is the coveted Sainsbury's Copper Pan Award 1990 and a trip to Walt Disney World.

There are plenty of other prizes to be won, including a gastronomic weekend in London, visits to the famous chefs' kitchens and their restaurants, a residential summer cookery and activity holiday, automatic cameras and accessories, Sainsbury's keen cooks' hampers, Le Creuset cookware and more.

The Awards, say the organisers, aim to encourage an interest in good food and home cooking to build a nation of confident home or business cooks for the future.

Nine regional finals will be held throughout June with the winners representing their areas at London's Savoy Hotel in October for the final.

Entry forms are available from Sainsbury stores, or direct from Anna Best/Peta Brown, Sainsbury's Young Cook of Britain, 2 Terminus Road, Chichester, West Sussex, PO19 2DR (telephone 0243 779239).

**He's shown up more cowboys than Sitting Bull.**



JIM BRIGGS, INSTALLATION INSPECTOR, NORTH WIRRAL DISTRICT

**Manweb** Trust us to find a better solution



# Staff check out a bright idea

By Jackie Unsworth

A NEW look is in store at Manweb's North Mersey District, where staff are "checking out" a bright idea. The Bootle-based District has recently transformed its stores to self-service, and it's proving to be a real time-saver for the workforce.

Gone are the early morning queues of men waiting to be served over the counter. Now they simply collect a supermarket trolley at the door and "shop" around the stores for the materials they need to carry out the day's work. At the check-out, items in the trolley are then compared with those listed on the "customer's" requisition form.

"The system is working very well," said North Mersey Office Manager Len Cornah. "We used to have a problem every morning when up to 70 men turned up at the stores to collect whatever materials they needed.

"There were queues waiting to be served, and it inevitably led to delays. Now, the men can serve themselves and it really has speeded things up. Instead of facing a long wait, they can be out of the Depot much earlier."

The man responsible for implementing the scheme is Material Controller Peter Scrimshire, who said: "The new system has been far more successful than people expected. I've got to be honest, with the exception of management, nobody believed it would work, but we have proved that not only is it workable, but efficiency is far greater as a result.

"We couldn't have done it without the backing of Bridle Road stores staff. We've had 100 per cent co-operation from them and they find it a great improvement."

Ways of making the self service system even slicker are now being looked at. These include pre-packaging items such as screws, nuts and bolts in labelled handy-sized batches.

Peter Scrimshire said: "This will give us

stricter control over the flow of materials, and it should save us money."

The District has been looking at the possibility of using a computerised system at the check-out to streamline the self service scheme further.

Stocks are currently checked on a regular basis, and having the information available on screen will tell the storekeepers what has been processed and enable them to quickly replace materials on the shelves.

Staff are also being encouraged to pre-requisition goods. If they know days in advance what materials they are going to need for certain jobs, their "orders" can be made up, ready for collection, by the storekeepers.

**Storekeeper Kate Royle (seated) checks out a shopper's trolley, watched by (left to right) Storekeepers John Harper and Ken Webb, Stores Foreman Cliff Weaver, and General Duties Assistant Harry Hogarth.**



Armed with a requisition form and a supermarket trolley, General Duties Assistant Harry Hogarth goes "shopping" for materials at Bridle Road Stores.



## Play area now in full swing

OSWESTRY Admin Assistant Roger Restieaux and District Manager Lyn Price were in for a spot of adventure when they called in at the Robert Clive Special School, near Shrewsbury.

Roger, whose teenage son Mark is a pupil there, took part in the London Marathon last year to boost a charity appeal to provide the school with an adventure playground area.

The fund-raising efforts of

Roger and other local people were so successful that the school was able to go ahead with the project.

And as a big thank you to those who helped, headmaster Brian Critchley invited benefac-

tors along to the school to see the play area in full swing.

Pictured during a tour of the adventure playground are (front row, left to right) Roger Restieaux, Brian Critchley and Lyn Price.

## Manweb cooks up a treat for local charity

Manweb came to the aid of a North Wales charity when they asked if an electrical appliance could be provided to help an underprivileged family.

The Rhyl branch of the Society of St Vincent de Paul, which distributes furniture and household items to families in need, asked if Manweb had a suitable traded-in cooker.

Bob Hewitt, Liaison Officer at Manweb's Queensferry Stores, was able to help and, after a thorough safety check, a cooker was presented to the Society's Rhyl President Mrs Mary Owen and North Wales West District President Mr Les Slee.

Mrs Owen said: "I'd like to thank Manweb for helping us. The cooker will be going to someone in need."

Manweb's Bob Hewitt is pictured (right) presenting the cooker to Mary Owen and Les Slee.



## Crossword solution

ACROSS: 1 Athens, 4 Hiding, 8 Throb, 9 Gremlin, 10 Chinese, 11 Three, 12 Hatchback, 17 Apron, 19 Unstuck, 21 Retired, 22 token, 23 Column, 24 Greedy.

DOWN: 1 Attack, 2 Harwich, 3 Noble, 5 Inertia, 6 Idler, 7 Gender, 9 Greyhound, 13 Tantrum, 14 Knuckle, 15 Fabric, 16 Skinny, 18 Ratel, 20 Satyr.



# Cooking with MARY



## Handy hints . . . easy on your purse

**AFTER** the big Christmas and New Year spend, you may be counting your pennies. Here's some economical recipes, very easy on the purse, and the first is an ideal way to use up the left over turkey you may have popped into the freezer.

### SPICED TURKEY RISOTTO

8oz (225g) brown rice; 1/2 tsp (2x5ml) turmeric powder; 1 tsp (1x5ml) salt; 6oz (175g) cooked turkey; 3 rashers back bacon; 1 small red pepper (seeded); 1 small yellow pepper (seeded); 4 tbsp (60ml) vegetable oil; 1 tsp (1x5ml) ground cumin; 2oz (50g) French beans; 2oz (50g) frozen peas; sprig of parsley to garnish.

Bring the rice and turmeric to the boil in three pints (1.75 litres) salted water. Simmer for 20 minutes or until the grains are just tender. Meanwhile, roughly chop the turkey and bacon and put aside. Roughly chop the peppers.

In a large frying pan, gently heat the oil and cumin. Fry the bacon until just cooked, add the peppers and turkey and stir continuously so as not to burn the ingredients.

Drain the rice and add to the pan along with the beans and peas. Cover and cook for a further three minutes, stirring occasionally.

Serve on a warm platter and garnish with parsley. Traditional risottos are sticky, unlike the way we normally serve rice. A good last minute addition which does tend to give a soggy result is white wine - about 2 1/2 fl oz (75ml) - and 1 - 2oz (25 - 50g) butter. Stir and cook together for a further three to five minutes.

To make the risotto even tastier, use turkey stock made from the carcase in place of water.

### SAUSAGE MEAT STEW

(serves 4)

8oz (225g) sausage meat; 1 egg, size 3, lightly beaten; 2oz (50g) breadcrumbs; 2 tsp (10ml) dried mixed herbs; salt and pepper; 2oz (50g) flour; 1 pint (600ml) turkey or chicken stock; 8oz (225g) Brussels sprouts; 8oz (225g) potatoes, peeled and cut into small chunks; 8oz (225g) carrots, peeled and sliced; oil for frying; 2 tsp (10ml) cornflour; parsley to garnish.

Place meat, egg, breadcrumbs, herbs and seasoning in a bowl and mix well with a fork. Using your hands, bring the mixture together to form a ball. Tip out onto a floured surface and divide into 10 pieces. Thoroughly coat in flour, cover and place in the fridge.

In a large saucepan, bring the stock to the boil. Make a cross in the bottom of each sprout and place in the stock along with the potatoes and carrots. Cover and simmer for 10 minutes.

Heat a little oil in a pan and gently fry the meatballs until crisp. Remove from the pan and drain on kitchen paper. Add them to the vegetables and simmer until the vegetables are soft.

Dissolve the cornflour in cold water to thicken the stock and garnish with parsley.

### BUTTER BEAN PATE

(serves 6 - 8)

**This is a very quick, tasty dish ideal served with crispy rolls for a light lunch.**

2x15oz (425g) cans of butter beans; 2 large garlic cloves, crushed; 1 lemon, grated rind and juice; 4 tbsp (60ml) olive oil; salt and freshly ground black pepper; sprig of parsley to garnish.

Drain the cans of butter beans and reserve several whole beans for the garnish. Place the remaining beans in a good processor and process until smooth.

Stir in the garlic, lemon rind, juice and oil and season to taste. Spoon the mixture into a serving dish and garnish with whole butter beans and parsley. Serve with toast fingers if used as a starter.

### CHRISTMAS PUDDING ECCLES CAKES

(makes 10)

**This is an ideal way to use up the Christmas puds you didn't eat during the holiday.**

1lb (450g) packet puff pastry; 8oz (225g) Christmas pudding; juice and rind of one orange; 2 tbsp (30ml) milk; 1oz (25g) caster sugar.

Preheat oven to 220C 425F mark 7. On a lightly floured surface, roll out the pastry to 1/4 inch (6mm) thickness. Using a 4 1/2 inch (12cm) cutter, cut out 10 circles of pastry and chill for 10 minutes.

In a mixing bowl, mix together the Christmas pudding, orange juice and rind. Remove the pastry from the fridge and place a spoonful of the mixture in the centre of each circle.

Using a pastry brush, brush the edges of the pastry with milk. Lift the edges and gather the pastry together to form a parcel. Turn the cakes over and pat down gently to make the eccles cake shape.

Place the cakes on a baking sheet, brush with milk and sprinkle with half the sugar. Bake for 15 to 20 minutes until the cakes rise and are golden brown. Remove from the oven and sprinkle with the remaining sugar. Serve immediately with custard or leave to cool.

### CHERRY AND ORANGE CAKE

(serves 10)

6oz (175g) glace cherries; 4oz (125g) self raising flour, sifted; 3oz (75g) plain flour, sifted; 4 tbsp (60ml) cornflour; rind of one orange; 6oz (175g) margarine, softened; 6oz (175g) caster sugar; 3 eggs, size 3, lightly beaten; icing sugar to sprinkle.

Preheat oven to 180C 350F mark 4. Grease and line an 8 inch (20cm) loose bottomed cake tin. Wash the cherries and pat dry on kitchen paper. Cut in half.

Place flour and cornflour in a bowl and stir in the cherries and orange rind. In a separate bowl, beat together the fat and sugar until light and fluffy in texture. Gradually beat in the eggs, adding a little flour after each addition to stop curdling. When all the egg has been incorporated, carefully fold in the flour.

Spoon the mixture into the prepared tin, ensuring the cherries are evenly distributed. Using a spatula, smooth out the top, forming a slight dip in the middle.

Cook in the centre of the oven for 1 to 1 1/2 hours. Cover with greaseproof paper after the first 30 to 45 minutes to prevent burning and continue cooking. The cake is cooked if a skewer put into the centre comes out clean.

Remove from the oven and stand for five minutes, then turn out on a wire rack. Leave to cool. Sprinkle the top with icing sugar.



## Lucky winners

**CHRISTMAS** came early for lucky winners in a competition marking the relaunch of Manweb's refurbished Bootle shop.

Mrs Ellen Grigsby, of Litherland, was presented with a Toshiba microwave and Mrs Vera Tipping, of Bootle, received a Ferguson midi hi fi system from Manweb Advertising and Promotions Manager Bill Gaywood at the shop in Mariners Way, New Strand.

A further prize of a Philips stereo radio cassette recorder went to Mr James Roach, of Bootle.

Mrs Grigsby (left) and Mrs Tipping are pictured receiving their prizes from Bill Gaywood (2nd from the right) watched by Bootle Shop Manager Mark Astbury.



## Shop team is top of league

**STAFF** at Runcorn shop netted a visit to Liverpool Football Club when they came top of the league in a competition organised by Candy in conjunction with Proctor and Gamble products.

The competition, open to shops with Candy demonstrators, involved designing a special display of the sponsors' products, and Runcorn Shop Manager Ian Warlow and his 'first division' team really scored points with the judges.

The Manweb winners were entertained in the Candy Exclusive Suite at Anfield.

Pictured left to right, enjoying their meal, are Maureen Davies, Candy's Manweb Area Merchandiser; Shirley Laverick, Senior Sales Assistant at Runcorn Shop, Shop Manager Ian Warlow, Mrs Joan Wakelin and husband Bill, Manweb's Shop Operations Manager.

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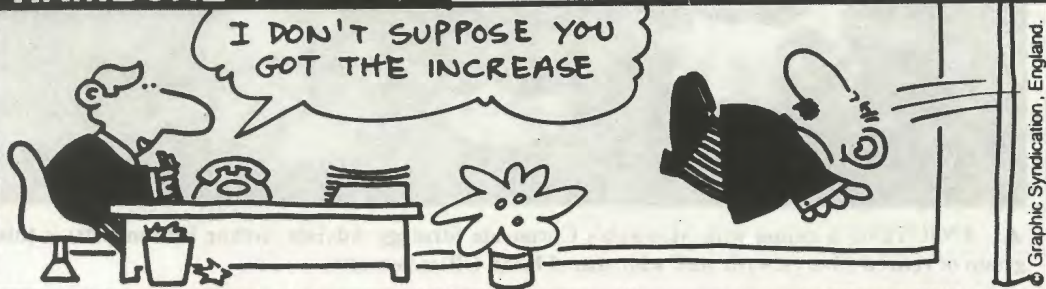
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### HAMBONE by Mike Flanagan

I DON'T SUPPOSE YOU GOT THE INCREASE



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## LJCC diary date

**MID** Cheshire District's LJCC Annual Conference will be held on Thursday, March 15, in the Autumn Suite, Hunter's Lodge Hotel, Sydney Road, Crewe, starting at 7pm. The guest speaker will be Mr E. K. Foy of the Electricity Council.

Retired staff who wish to attend should notify General Services at the District Office in order to arrange sufficient transport and meals. Transport will be provided from Lock Street, Northwich.



# Picture Power



▲ SMOOTH-talking Manweb staff who reached the final stages of the Public Speaking Competition were congratulated by Deputy Chairman Richard Gales when they gathered at Head Office to collect their certificates. Pictured left to right are Len Dorr, Stephen Tilley, Alex Battisti, Jane Bowers, Andrea Woollatt, Calum Kennedy, Linda Hinton, Christine Pighills, Richard Gales, Paul Fitzgerald, Paul Dobson, Ann Simmons and Jeanette Brennan. Linda Hinton, of Head Office Tariffs and Economics, and Paul Dobson, formerly of Liverpool Energy Marketing, but who has now left Manweb, reached the national finals of the competition. Paul took 2nd place, and unfortunately Linda was unplaced.

▲ LISTER Drive staff dug deep into their pockets to boost an appeal to help local handicapped people.

They raised a massive £350 in sponsorship for a wheelchair push being carried out by disabled charity worker Gerry Kinsella between Land's End and John O'Groats in aid of the Greenbank Project.

The Greenbank Project is a charity which plans to provide a training assessment centre in the Sefton Park area of Liverpool to enable handicapped people to prepare themselves for a life of independence.

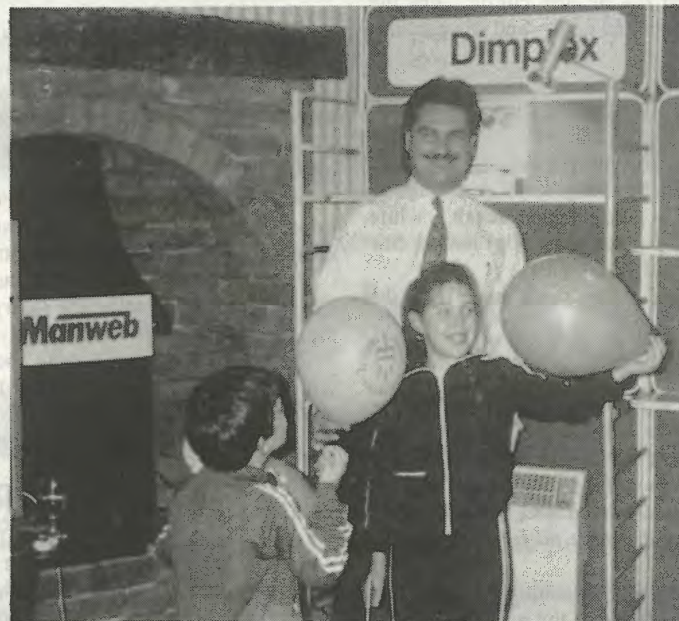
The Lister Drive effort was coordinated by Danny Burton, of the Mains Section, with the help of several other Liverpool District staff.

Gerry Kinsella, Manager of the Greenbank Training Workshops, is pictured (centre) receiving the £350 cheque at Lister Drive. Also pictured (left to right) are Julie McCartney, of Enquiries, Danny Burton, Jimmy Gillespie, of the Greenbank Project, and Tracey Dorr, also of Enquiries.



ANDY Hallington, of Mid Cheshire Energy Marketing, is pictured entertaining some of the younger visitors to the Manweb display during a mini-tour of the District's few remaining non-gas areas.

The caravan roadshow took in Plumley, Audlem and the northern suburbs of Crewe to promote electric heating systems, in particular Electratch, and whole families were invited along to see some of the services offered by Manweb.



▲ WELCOME to Manweb! That was the warm greeting to a group of visitors from Thailand who called in at Head Office recently.

The group, part of a Thai Folk Drama Troupe, was touring the area to perform to local schools and churches, and took time out to visit Manweb as a guest of Bryan Livesley, 2nd Engineer, Management Services, one of the organisers of a performance at his local church in Weaverham.

The Thai visitors and church helpers are pictured being welcomed to Head Office by Glyn Walley, Creditors Payments Manager, and other colleagues from Manweb.



▲ Mid Mersey District 'joined up' with the United States Army to stage a week-long exhibition on Energy Awareness. The display, organised by the 47th Area Support Group, was held at Burtonwood Air Force Base, near Warrington, and covered various aspects of industrial, commercial and domestic electricity usage.

It was the second year running that the US Army organised an Energy Awareness Week, and Manweb was 'recruited' on both occasions.

The Manweb display was arranged by Frank Kelly, of Mid Mersey Energy Marketing, who said: "The Base Commander, Colonel Young, was very appreciative of our participation and very impressed with our display.

"The week was rounded off with a Manweb-organised visit to Fiddlers Ferry Power Station, where a contingent of 40 military and civilian personnel spent an interesting two hours on a conducted tour."

Pictured at the Manweb display are (left to right) Colonel Young, Frank Kelly and Alan Horrocks, also of Mid Mersey Energy Marketing.



▲ ENJOYING a cuppa with Manweb's Corporate Strategy Adviser Arthur Ellison (left) is this group of retired Aberystwyth staff who visited Head Office recently.



# Society launches membership drive

**HELP us to help others - that's the message to staff from the Manweb Benevolent Society which is hoping to recruit more members.**

The Society was founded in 1959 with the sole purpose to assist employees, retired staff and their dependents in times of need, in the strictest confidence and with complete impartiality.

For just 2p per week (9p per month) contributing members enable the Society to assist colleagues by providing practical relief through counselling, advice, home or hospital visits and financial help in the form of small loans or grants.

The Society is organised through 11 local sub-committees - one at Head Office and one at each of the Districts. It is administered by a main committee which consists of representatives from each sub-committee, who meet once a quarter.

Some of the Society's work is on a voluntary basis and if you are unable to help financially but are willing to give up some

of your spare time, please contact your local General Services Section or Welfare Department. The representatives are as follows:

North Mersey - Joan Corrin; Liverpool - Chris Edwards; Mid Mersey - Ena Harding; Dee Valley - Kath Sadowski; North Wirral - Lil Martland; Mid Cheshire - Pat O'Neill; Clwyd - Winston Hughes; Gwynedd - Hefin Thomas; Oswestry - Paul Edwards; Aberystwyth - Mark Tracey; Head Office - Damian Hyland.

Head Office representative Damian Hyland said: "I hope that Manweb employees appreciate that the Society provides a valuable service and that its future lies in their hands. This future can only be assured by an active, contributory membership. At present only 37 per cent of employees are members."



## Good news for young editors

**IT was good news for budding young editors when Manweb offered the services of its printing department.**

"In Our Own Words", the Cheshire Schools Magazine Project, was desperate for paper and envelopes in order to contact sponsors and turned to Manweb for help.

Manweb agreed to provide various stationery, including special letter-headed paper and newsletters, and invited some of the children

involved in the magazine project along to the Chester Head Office to meet Printing Department staff.

The Magazine's Project Director Frank Melling said: "We are very grateful to Manweb for providing the stationery we need in order to keep in touch with our sponsors and local schools."

"In Our Own Words", which was launched four years ago, is produced bi-monthly by children from schools throughout Cheshire and is on sale in newsagents nationwide.

Pictured with some of the stationery provided by Manweb are (back row, l-r) Manweb Print Operator Alan Baker and Typesetter Peter Ellison, In Our Own Words Project Director Frank Melling and Editorial Secretary Jodi Greaves, and Ellesmere Port Catholic High School teacher Karen Moffatt, with (front row, l-r) pupils Rebecca Heron (14), Ruth Ives (12), Philip Starkey (12) and Ann Jones (15).

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## HOLIDAYS

**Brittany/SW France** - Caravans and mobile homes. Self-drive pack. Tel: Crewe Internal 178 or 0270 766675 (Ian Linford).

**Caravan** - Towyn, Near Rhyl, Six-berth, two bedrooms, shower, fridge, fully fitted. From £75 per week. Tel: 0978 362615/352653.

**Carmel** - Caernarfon. 19th Century stone cottage in own grounds. Excellent views. Three bedrooms, bathroom lounge and parlour. Large kitchen with cooker, fridge and freezer. Tel: 0286 880 749. Alwyn Pritchard, 16 Maes Hyfryd, Carmel, Caernarfon, Gwynedd.

**Costa Del Sol** - Benalmadena studio apartment, suitable for two or three people. Excellent pool and facilities. Shops and bars with entertainment nearby. 10 minutes walk to beach. As advertised in Global and Sol holiday brochures. Telephone Joe Flanagan, H.O. int. ext. 2957 or 0244 41097 evenings.

**Criccieth** - North Wales House overlooking village green, Sleeps six. CTV. Beach and shops two mins. Tel: 076671 2614 (Ann Tudor).

**France** - B&B, H/B, Caravans and camping. Tarn et Garrone Region. Close to junction 8 and 9 on Autoroute between Bordeaux and Toulouse. Excellent catering, including French, Indian, and vegetarian cooking. Much to see and do, or just relax in sunshine. Ex-SEB employee. Tel: David Boniface, 010-33 (63-95-95-20).

**Pony Trekking** - And farm holidays. Accompanied one-hour to full-day treks for novices or experienced riders. Holiday cottages available. Self-ctrng. or bed and breakfast or half-board. Lic. restaurant open to non-residents. Lunch, afternoon tea, dinner. Private parties catered for. Further details: Hwylfa Ddafydd Country Farm Holidays. Tel: Colwyn Bay 516965.

**Port Grimaud** - Six miles St Tropez. Four /six-bth. caravans, with electricity, h. and c. water, shower. on three star hotel site. Luxury coach travel from most areas. Tel: 0670 712399.

**Porthmadog** - Holiday bungalow, sleeps six. Black Rock Sands five minutes' drive. Convenient Ffestiniog Railway, Snowdonia National Park. For infmtn.: C.Jones, 2 Meadow Drive, Porthmadog. Tel: 0766 2519.

**Newquay** - Cornwall, family-run guest house with good home cooking. Family rooms. Friendly atmosphere, Sea views. 200 yards from town centre. Dinner, bed and breakfast from £70 per week. Former Merseyside family will make you welcome. Disc. for Manweb empls. Apply Avondale,

28 George Road, Newquay, Cornwall. Tel: 0637 872234.

**Llandudno** - April Court. Small family-run private hotel (Welsh Tourist Board - two crown). Close to local amenities, beach, town centre, theatres, golf courses, etc. New Alpine Ski complex in beautiful natural setting. Ideal base for exploring beauty-spots of Snowdonia. Good home cooking and comfortable, friendly atmosphere. Children welc. Enquiries to April Court, St David's Place, Llandudno, Gwynedd LL30 2UG. Tel 0492 77898.. Disc. for Elec. Board employees and families (both past and present.

**Algarve** - Privately-owned villa set in large gardens in the Monchique Hills. Spilt level/dining room, good kitchen facilities, utility room, two-good sized bedrooms, terraces with garden furniture. Panoramic views of the West Coast, 24 kms away, Swimming pool. Maid service. Food hamper provided. Flights arranged. Tel: 0352 50159 or 0244 316682.

**Anglesey** - Self catering and coarse fishing holidays. Two lakes on 15-acre site overlooking Snowdonia. Touring caravans and tents welcome. Brochure available. Tel: 0248 713410.

**Weston-sup'r-Mare** - Static caravan on farm. Six berth, sep. dbl. bedroom, shower, toilet, TV, etc. All season price £70 per week. Tel: 093472 292.

**Newquay** - Cornwall. Luxury caravans with shower, and economy vans. Colour TV, flush toilet, etc. Pleasant site near town and beaches. Cleaned and maintained by owners. From £50 per week. Tel: 0637 876589 (Gill).

**Spain** - Luxury villa, three dbl bedrooms and two two bathrooms. Private swimming pool. Quiet area "Calpe" Costa Blanca. Walled gdns, terraces ect. Five minutes from uncrowded beaches. Available from £150 per week. Telephone 0736 664177.

**Dolgellau** - Traditional farmhouse cottage set in a seven-acre smallholding in Snowdonia National Park. Sleeps seven plus cot. Tastefully modernised. Fully-fitted kitchen, inc dishwasher and microwave. Storage heaters and large inglenook fireplace. Ample parking and grounds. Kennel for pet by arrangmt. Easy access to mountains and sea Beautiful scenery and lovely walks. Prices from £100 to £220 per week. Tel: 0341 423912.

**Cardigan** - 12 miles. Lux. berth static caravan, near beaches. Families only. Tel: 0492 580 253 (evenings).

**French Riviera** - Six-berth caravan, all amenities on site, within easy reach of Monaco, St Tropez, etc. Golf, riding close by. SAE to M. Williams, The Lodge,

# Free Ads

Lingen, Bucknell, Shropshire, or tel: 0544 267579.

**Newquay** - Cornwall. Guest house, sea views, two minutes from beaches. Quiet area close to town, good food, comfort, prkng. BB/EM £65 - £80 per week. ESI staff. Tel: 063787 4291 (Mr Pleasants).

**Anglesey** - Tal-y-Bont Cottages, Dwyran. Luxury cottages set in a 17-acre smallholding, 11/2 miles from shingle beach of Menai Straits and four miles from sandy beaches of Llanddwyn. Nature reserve, bird sanctuary, sea zoo, shops and restaurant nearby. Weekly prices - July/August £220, September 1 to 15 £180, September 16 to 30 £160, October £130. Telephone Deeside 819768.

**Llandudno** - Rosaire Private Hotel. Family run and situated in lovely garden area of town, yet close to all entertainment and shops with no hills to climb. Free car park. Tea/coffee facilities. Some en suite rooms available. Excellent home cooking, served at separate tables. Telephone 0492 77677 or write for brochure to Mr and Mrs W.G.Evans, 2 St Seiriols Road, Llandudno, Gwynedd LL30 2YY.

**Anglesey** - Bed and Breakfast/self catering summer let. Secluded farmhouse with panoramic views of the Snowdonia range. Within 10 minutes of the main town Llangefni and sandy beaches. Idyllic for bird watchers. Tel: Bodorgan (0407) 840038.

**Presthaven Sands** - North Wales. Caravan to let. Colour TV. Shower. Fully fitted. Good site facilities. Tel: 061 366 8789.

**City of Chester** - Self catering flat. Centrally heated. TV, fridge, linen provided. Parking, all inclusive. Tel: 0244 42538.

**Luxury Caravans** - Eight berth. Llanrhystyd, West Wales (on the Cardigan coastline). Pleasant site (no club) nine miles from Aberystwyth and 11 miles from Newquay. Near to beach with beautiful scenic views. Families only. Sorry, no pets. Contact K. A. Cull on 0939 33005.

**Near Snowdon** - Quiet valley. Modern flat, all facilities. Sleeps four. Beautiful views, free fishing. Contact Mrs A Bohannon, 0286 85537.

**South of France** - Six-berth caravan to let on site with all amenities. Easy reach of Monaco, Monte Carlo, St Tropez etc. Some dates July and August. Telephone 0544 267579 after 6pm. ESI staff only.

## FOR SALE

**Woodworking Tools** - Various. Good brands and good condition. Telephone 051 733 0382.

**Minolta Camera** - X300 SLR & 50mm lens, with Ever Ready case, £95. Minolta dedicated flash, £25. SIRRUS 28-70 macro zoom, £45. Telfon 80-200 zoom, £45. Hanimex Pro Grip Flash, £20. All with box. Will accept £200 the lot. Contact Mr D. J. Jones on 0758 613183.

## PROPERTY

**Johnstown** - Maelor Road. Terraced house. Two up, three down. Telephone Rhos 840 504.

**Rock Ferry** - 3/4 bedroom semi in quiet crescent. Mature gardens, central heating. Part double glazed, including garden room extension. Off-street parking. £49,950. Telephone 051 327 3844 or North Wirral ext 2160.

## CARS

**Ford Escort 1.3GL** - W-reg. Atlantic Blue. New clutch, tyres, exhaust, water pump. Six months' MOT. Very good condition. Offers around £1,200. Telephone Gareth Davies on Aberystwyth 612183 after 6pm.

**Vauxhall Nova 1.0** - Red hatchback, 11 months old. 11,500 miles. Alarm fitted. FSH full service history. £4,395 ono. Contact Angela Jones, North Wirral ext 2155.

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# CONTACT Sport



## Ian in the running to reach the top

**TAKING** a well-earned rest during a recent six-day orienteering event in Scotland is Manweb Engineering Trainee Ian Morris, pictured at the peak of Ben Lomond.

Ian, 24, currently based in System Operation at Head Office, spends much of his spare time trekking up mountains and across rugged terrain pursuing his hobby of fell running and orienteering.

His love of the great outdoors has taken him all over the country and as far afield as Sweden.

Last year he took second place in the Shropshire Fell Running League and he has also won the Telford Athletic Fell Running League.

Ian, who joined Manweb two years ago after gaining a degree in Electrical and Electronic Engineering, said: "It's certainly a different type of sport, and a fairly lonely one.

"You are out on your own, making all your own decisions, and it's great to forget about everything else. I really enjoy getting away from it all."

Ian has always been an active type, and when he was at colleges started up a fitness group for fellow-students.

He particularly enjoys orienteering, in which runners, armed with a map, compete to find the fastest route on a tough course of between nine and 15 km.

Ian, who trains most weekends in the Lake District or around Shropshire, where his parents live, has set his sights on winning the presti-



gious Karrimor International Mountain Marathon, a two-day long distance orienteering event.

The event involves camping out overnight, and all competitors must run with a partner and carry with them such equipment as sleeping bags, food and clothing.

Ian has competed in the event three times, the first year in Snowdonia, where he took 18th place, the following year the event was held in the Cheviots, and Ian was placed 40th, and last year, in the Lake District, he was forced to quit the race when his partner was injured.

## Robin's rugby goal is in sight

**RUGBY** playing Llangefni Depot craftsman Robin McBryde is attending Welsh under 20 side training sessions at Cardiff.

Nineteen-year-old Robin, from Mená Bridge, has been playing rugby for over 10 years, and is a member of the Mold team.

The Welsh training sessions, held at the National Sports Centre, give the selectors a chance to see 50 invited players go through their paces and

spot up and coming talent for the under 20 and under 21 squad.

The under 21 side may be strengthened for next season's Scottish fixture, and selections from the training sessions should be known in March or April.

## Bridle Road takes golf trophy

**GOLFERS** from North Mersey took the winning trophy in the annual Inter District Manweb Golf Contest, played at the end of the season at Padeswood and Buckley Golf Club.

The victorious team comprised **Bernie Baldwin, Tommy Dent, Paul Clare and Barry Crawford, who won by 10 strokes.**



## Young artists have a brush with success

**MAKING** an exhibition of themselves at Manweb's North Mersey District Office are pupils of St George of England High School, Bootle. St George's Art and Design Department is currently displaying a selection of pupils' work at the Bridle Road offices, as part of a scheme to forge links between schools and local industry.

The exhibition is being funded by Manweb and the Technical and Vocational Education Initiative, and the work displayed will be changed on a regular basis.

Manweb has had several links with St George's in the past, and North Mersey Office Manager Len Cornah is a school governor. He said: "The works have

all been produced by 4th and 5th year pupils, and include oil paintings and watercolours. They really are excellent examples of these talented youngsters' works."

Alan Niker, TVEI Co-ordinator, said: "This exercise is giving pupils a new sense of the value of their work, and an appreciation of the importance

of a good display. Employees at Manweb have, for their part, shown a great interest in and appreciation of the exhibition."

The pupils whose work is currently on display visited Bridle Road to hang the exhibition. Pictured left to right are Jill Brown, Lee Kendall, Len Cornah, Alan Niker, Alison Cousins, Joanne Lockyer and Michael Evans.

## Congratulations

## Double win at Knutsford

**THERE** were extra Christmas gifts in store for staff at the three winning shops in Manweb's annual Shop Window competition.

Hampers filled with Christmas goodies were presented to each member of staff at St John's, Caernarfon and Knutsford shops in recognition of their festive efforts to attract customers.

### Double

And there was a double cause for celebration at Knutsford shop, when Manager Jim O'Rourke and his team learned they had also won the Knutsford Town Chamber of Trade Christmas Shop Window Competition.

Jim was presented with a special certificate by the Chamber of Trade to display in the shop.

## Long-serving staff

**CONGRATULATIONS** to the following Manweb employees who have clocked up 20, 30 or 40 years' service in the electricity supply industry.

**40 YEARS:** Head Office - Dorothy Jones, Admin Assistant (Claims); North Wirral - Elwyn Jones, Mains Manager.

**30 YEARS:** Dee Valley - Tommy Hayden, Craftsman Joiner; North Wirral - John Kenneth Holden, Foreman; Mid Cheshire - Ken Foster - Foreman, Contracting.

**20 YEARS:** Head Office - Clifford Shone and Brian Geoffrey Webb, both Queensferry Storekeepers; North Mersey - Bernard Baldwin, Craftsman Electrician.