

Contact

June 1979

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ORDERLY ROOM,
IV. (Q. O.) HUSSARS.

Bangalore, April 25, 1898.

I have known No. 2935 pte J. Williams, for three years. He is a careful, sober, trustworthy man, and I have no hesitation in recommending him for employment under the Postal authorities.

Winston S. Churchill

Lieut. 4th Hussars.

I quite endorse all that
Lieut. Churchill says about
Private J. Williams. C. H. A. J. J. J. J.
4th Hussars

Testimonial
(see page 115)



MANWEB'S TOP TEAM WITH THEIR GUEST

Our photograph, above, was taken on the occasion of the recent visit to Head Office by Sir Francis Tombs, Chairman of The Electricity Council, when he was the principal guest speaker at this year's Management Conference (to be reported in next month's 'Contact'). Round the table, from left to right, are Messrs. Geoff Barnes (Chief Accountant), Jim Fisher (Chief Engineer), Colin Leonard (Management Services Controller), Bill Shires (Chief Commercial Officer) and Richard Gales (Deputy Chairman), Sir Francis Tombs, Mr. Ben Hastings (Chairman) and Mr. John Scudamore (Secretary).

They also serve

IN addition to serving the community as customers of MANWEB, many members of our staff also devote much of their spare time to other areas of public service. Work for voluntary and charitable organisations come high on the list as does taking on responsibilities as a local Councillor.

Following the recent flush of elections, we now publish the names of some of our colleagues who have been elected to office.

Councillor John J. Myers, and his wife Glenys, will be first citizens as the new Mayor and Mayoress of Wrexham Maelor District Council. John, a principal assistant in the Revenue section at Head Office, has been in our industry for over 40 years.

Installed for the second year in succession as Town Mayor of Oswestry is Councillor W. Owen Jones, a meter reader/collector is also a member of Oswestry Borough Council.

Councillor John J. and Mrs. Glenys Myers after their installation as Mayor and Mayoress of Wrexham Maelor District Council.



Councillor W. Owen Jones, Mr. Mayor once again.



Other colleagues who have also been elected to serve as Councillors are:

Evan W. R. Davies (driver at Aberystwyth), elected as Chairman of the Myfenydd Community Council.

John I. Hughes (electrician, Caernarfon), Llanrug Council.

Francis Jones (engineering foreman, Caernarfon), on Gwynedd County Council. Arfon Borough Council and Llanberis Community Council.

Brian Livesley (Work Study Officer, Head Office), Weaverham Parish Council.

John K. Owen (mechanical fitter, Llangejni), Cerrigceinwen Community Council.

Robert H. Parry (storekeeper, Llangejni), Llanfairmarthafarneithaf Community Council.

John J. Pritchard (sub-station attendant, Oswestry), Oswestry Town Council.

Clifford Shone (storekeeper, Queensferry), Alyn and Deeside District Council.

Don Wade (energy sales engineer, Oswestry), Chairman of Llanymynech Parish Council.

A. R. George Wild (Material Controller, Oswestry), Oswestry Rural District Council.

Contact

THE STAFF MAGAZINE
OF THE
MERSEYSIDE AND
NORTH WALES
ELECTRICITY BOARD

Vol. 31 No. 6

June 1979

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LATER THAN WE THINK

DURING recent years there have been many warnings that the world faces a deepening energy problem as ever-increasing demands are placed on dwindling reserves of fossil fuels.

Prophecies of this kind tend to go over the head of the average citizen until something happens to drive the lesson home in a painful way.

Reality now stares him in the face as he discovers that the selling of petrobis becoming a five-days-a-week business and that a £1 note will no longer buy a gallon of the stuff at the pumps. The pattern is repeated from Los Angeles to Tokio.

Meanwhile another steep rise in the price of coal means that the cost of British coal burned in our power stations has risen by 35% in 18 months. One does not need to be a genius to forecast the consequences of this trend.

In the words of the Electricity Council:

'The latest increase throws a heavy burden on electricity consumers and leaves us no choice but to explore new opportunities for buying cheaper power station fuel from other sources. Oil is likely to remain scarce or expensive, so we shall be looking for more coal from abroad at the right price.'

Far reaching decisions on future energy policies remain to be taken. It could be later than we had thought!

Please let the Editorial staff know of any large-scale or unusual engineering schemes or commercial projects going on in your department. We are interested in people too! Contact us about your interesting personalities with a story to tell.

NORTH WIRRAL DISTRICT

STAFF CONFERENCE

Chief Constable Talks on Terrorism

DESCRIBING Merseyside as vibrant and volatile, with crime as one of the few growth industries in the area, accomplished guest speaker, Mr. Ken Oxford, Chief Constable of Merseyside, informed and entertained an audience of our North Wirral District staff at their annual conference held a short time ago at a Moreton hotel.

Opening his remarks in a humorous vein—never before had he spoken to a gathering who were electrified before he started—Mr. Oxford soon eased into the serious side of his address.

He spoke of violence and political unrest and of groups of people willing to do almost anything to achieve their selfish objectives. *"Barbaric acts of terrorism seem to have become commonplace,"* he said.

"I am not an alarmist," he went on, *"but I simply ask you all to be aware and acknowledge that these things are not far from us today."*

Saying that rumbling resentment often caused violent explosions, the Chief Constable stated, *"A civilisation which can accommodate dissidents is the way of survival. However, we must not ignore or become complacent about what could really happen here."*

He made the point that his observations were

Below: Some of our meter readers get down to a spot of serious drinking. From left to right: Terence Donnellon, Peter Pemberton, Bernard Duffey and James Mills.

Right: Jeffrey Ainslie and Jeanette Stirrett.



Our 'Girl from MANWEB,' Miss Lynne Joyce, looks quite pleased to have the strong arm of the law around her when in the pleasant company of Chief Constable of Liverpool, Mr. Kenneth Oxford

not political but simply democratic. He said that in this country, the independence of the police force from politics or government should be recognised, exemplifying police independence in the field of industrial disputes.

"A change of government does not affect the police in any way," he continued. *"The same men hold the same jobs and carry on the same duties."*

Commenting that the police were concerned with the activities of subversive political groups which became a threat to law and order, Mr. Oxford cautioned that extreme right wing or any other political views were not an offence in themselves.

"Today, in this country," he warned, *"there are extreme political groups who wish to impose their will on authority. These people are a threat to every-one's future."*

In closing, Mr. Oxford gave his audience the





Three smart young men from the Contracting staff. From left to right: Allen Williams, Graham Rixon and Alistair Clynh.



A very attractive trio of ladies from the Wallasey shop are, from left to right: Blanche Barrow, Jackie Semple and Joan Cooley.

assurance that the forces of law and order on Merseyside—and indeed throughout our country—were well aware of the dangers but were keeping a low profile on the situation.

Earlier in the evening, Group Manager Mr. Jim Barraclough had welcomed the 140-plus delegates and special guests to the meeting.

Then LAC Secretary, Mr. Jack Bradley, in his usual light-hearted yet fully informative manner, gave his report on the year's working of the Local Advisory Committee and its various sub-committees.

All in all, a very successful conference—yet again!



Seen chatting at the Conference are, from left to right: Betty Haslett, Doreen Salter and Bob Vernon. In the 'shadows' is Don Tomsett, a guest from Head Office.

With the ladies well represented at the Conference, here we show another group relaxing with a drink. They are from left to right: Celia Chrishop, Betty Conway, Kathleen Jones, Margaret Coughlin, Kathleen Doughty, Norma Hodge and Jan Doherty.



“Merseyside — Into the Eighties with Pride”

Article by

Mr. K. G. OXFORD, Q.P.M.,

Chief Constable, Merseyside

VANDALISM is a term used today to describe the wanton and apparently motiveless destruction of, or damage to property. It has also been said that “*vandalism has to do with amenities and social control.*” It reflects on the one hand, the damage done to amenities already provided, and on the other, lack of amenities appropriate to the needs of the area. It illustrates the breakdown of discipline by, and between, adults and children; the need to restore this in a new form relevant to the prevailing attitudes of people, young and old, to each other; the organisational problems imposed by rehousing and modern architectural design; the growing aspirations of residents for amenities in their neighbourhood and a greater say in the control and development of amenities.

The senseless damage to public buildings and other property; the obscene, mindless graffiti is all too apparent. A Home Office report of 1977 costed the national bill for vandalism at £100 million, but at the same time, the Save the Children Fund claimed that vandalism in schools was costing £15 million per year.

Local Authorities on Merseyside probably spend at least £3 million per annum repairing the effects of vandalism, money which is provided by each and every rent and ratepayer and which could be put to better use. In fact vandalism, and crime, account for a greater proportion of public expenditure in each successive year.

Despite this, it is apparent the situation does not improve, for the infrastructure of our environment becomes progressively shabbier, and it is clear that we are faced with a problem of considerable proportion, not only in respect of vandalism, but of crime in general.

From time to time, the police, central and local government, with other organisations, vigorously pursue a wide variety of projects in an effort to combat particular problems they face in this regard. Such campaigns initially receive enthusiastic support, but achieve a limited success. Support tends to diminish fairly rapidly as organisations are reluc-

tantly forced to direct their scarce resources towards a succession of other imperatives. Coupled with this, the police have found, through experience, how difficult it is to sustain the interest of the general public in any campaign which requires a response to criminal behaviour for a variety of reasons, all of which are understandable.

What then can be done? Partly through recognition of the limitations of more established efforts to combat crime and vandalism, and partly in response to the intense public concern throughout Merseyside over the continuing and apparently unending rise in the incidence of these offences, the notion of a major campaign was evolved. Whilst it is true that the campaign is primarily concerned in securing a reduction in the incidence of crime and vandalism, it is not intended to deal with these problems in isolation. The whole purpose behind the campaign is the improvement in the quality of life on Merseyside and the title of the campaign, “**Merseyside—Into the Eighties with Pride.**” is reflective of our purpose.

The campaign started earlier this year, and was heralded by a one-day Seminar held at Knowsley Hall, at which the police met with some 140 representatives of County and District Councils, voluntary organisations, commerce and industry, the clergy and representatives of the press and radio.

At this Seminar, I proposed that the police should co-ordinate activities and ensure that good ideas and ventures received the maximum support. The delegates discussed this proposition with a view to establishing how it could best be implemented and achieved and it was decided that the importance of encouraging organisations and individuals to ‘do their own thing’ to the benefit of the community should be recognised and encouraged. The discussion and contributions made by individuals attending the Seminar indicated that there was a tremendous reserve of public spirit and a will to be involved.

At the conclusion of the Seminar, the Chairman of the District Syndicates recommended the formation of small committees in each of the five Districts of Merseyside to encourage the reception and promotion of specific ideas in relation to local action, with a view to furthering the aims of the campaign.

This then, is the hopeful beginning of a campaign which seeks to involve as many organisations, agencies and individuals as possible in Merseyside, to encourage and support them to ‘do their own thing’ where it fits the theme of the campaign to the benefit of our society, and which seeks not only a reduction in crime and vandalism, but seeks, as the main objective, an improvement of the quality of life.

First Prize

Words total 270
 Bonus total 152
 Grand total 422

From **BILL BANKS**
 Kirkby Grid Substation

"CROSSPATCH" COMPETITION

The entries were of an exceptionally high standard, and it was a very close-run thing indeed, with only seven points separating the three prizewinners and quite a number of others topping the 400 mark.

First prizewinner—by a whisker of a margin—was Bill Banks, a switchboard attendant at Kirkby Grid substation, with the work of art, reproduced top right.

Second Prize

Words total 270
 Bonus total 149
 Grand total 419

From **GORDON LEWER**
 Display Department, Head Office

Third Prize

Words total 260
 Bonus total 155
 Grand total 415

From **STEVE HOLMES**
 Drawing Office, Head Office

Entries for our "Customer Care" ideas competition are still being evaluated. We hope to announce the results in next month's 'Contact.'





North Mersey District's lone recipient of a 30-year certificate, Mr. Albert Eyres, *centre left*, is congratulated by Mr. Jim Barraclough (*Group Manager*). Other staff members who were presented with their 30-year certificates are, *from left to right*: Messrs. William Cleugh, Ernest Tupman and John Jones, Miss Joyce Barren and Mr. James Calvert—all from *Liverpool District*—and, Messrs. Albert Hardman, John Thelwell, Thomas Ellwood, William Bell and John Prescott from *North Wirral District*.

Presentations for Long Service

for North Mersey Liverpool and North Wirral District Staff

STAFF members from North Mersey, Liverpool and North Wirral Districts who had qualified for their 20 or 30-year long service certificates, gathered together at a special ceremony held at Dovedale Towers, Liverpool, a short time ago.

Following a welcome from Mr. Roy Fallows (*Vice-Chairman of No. 1 LAC*), the certificates were presented to the individual recipients by Mr. Jim Barraclough (*Group Manager*), Chairman of the three L.A.C.'s.

He said that the occasion was to honour the many years of service given to the industry by loyal staff and to officially present the certificates.

"I was the recipient of such a certificate not very long ago," he commented. "I must say, if the next 20 years are as interesting as my first 20 then I shall look forward to them."

Some of our Liverpool District staff who have completed their 20 years' service. *From left to right*: Messrs. James Curran (*now retired*), John Howson, John Green, Charles Hambley, Arthur Conah, Peter Falcon, Robert Lowry, Stanley Wappett, William France, Alexander Eden, John Cook, Patrick Jordon, Norman Everett and Con Nolan (*also Vice-Chairman of No. 2 LAC*).



20-YEAR STAFF

From left to right: Messrs. Harry Stanley (Vice-Chairman No. 5 LAC), Kenneth Winter, William Dean, Benjamin Hardcastle, John Crosby and John Houligan—all from North Wirral—and, Messrs. Roy Fallows (Vice-Chairman No. 1 LAC), Herbert Miller, James Brennan and Brian Stephens, from North Mersey.



Mr. Barraclough then went on to say, "No matter what we read in the press or hear elsewhere, we in MANWEB all have achievements to be proud of. We are a public service, which makes for an interesting job, especially for those who have direct contact with our customers." He made the point that many members of the Board's staff were trusted to work

on their own initiative giving them more satisfaction than they would get from many other types of work.

"On behalf of the Board—and our customers," he concluded, "thank you all for your service given. I can assure you that it is very well appreciated."

(List of recipients on page 119.)

40 YEARS

At a separate ceremony held at the Atlantic Tower Hotel in

Liverpool, MANWEB Chairman Mr. Ben Hastings presented certificates to members of the staff

from our three Northern Districts, who had qualified with 40 years' service.



Above: MANWEB Chairman Mr. Ben Hastings, centre, meets Mrs. Joyce King, the widow of Mr. Robert King from North Mersey District, on the occasion of the presentation of 40-year certificates to staff from North Mersey and North Wirral Districts. Also in the picture, from left to right, are: Messrs. Frederick Slee and John Powell (D.E.), Mrs. Slee, Mr. George Bowers (D.C.E.), Mrs. F. Smith and Mr. Frank Smith—all from North Wirral District. In the centre is Mr. Jim Barraclough (Group Manager). Then we see, Messrs. Dennis Noad (D.C.E.) and Messrs. Jim Kelly, Eric Morris and George Shoesmith (D.A.O.)—all from North Mersey District.

Below: Presentation to 40-year staff from Liverpool District. From left to right: Mr. Dennis Hughes (D.A.O.), Mrs. and Mr. James Bather, Messrs. Douglas Birkenhead, Jim Barraclough (Group Manager), Ben Hastings (Chairman) and Charles Donovan, Mrs. and Mr. Norman Owens, Mrs. and Mr. Arthur Johnson and Mr. Robert Hodson (D.C.E.).



Talking Notes

TOP CAT

ABOUT 12 years ago, a tri-coloured cat—black, marmalade and white—casually strolled into the Stores block at our former District Office yard at Marsh Lane, Bootle. The stores staff took to it immediately and dashed out for some cat food in an effort to persuade it to stay. The brand name of the food was "Sam" and this was the name they gave to the visitor.

Then pussy gave birth to a litter of kittens. Sam then became Samantha. *She is still called Sam though—it avoids confusing her!*

The kittens were as lovely as Sam and were much in demand. After her second litter, the staff decided that enough was enough and they subscribed to have her 'doctored.'

During Sam's spell at Marsh Lane she certainly earned her keep for she caught rats galore. However, since being transferred with the rest of North Mersey District staff to Bridle Road, Sam has had a life of ease in the spotlessly clean Stores.

To keep herself in trim, she goes hunting in the nearby fields and often returns with a

mouse or a bird. Once she came back with a rabbit! A powerful pussy is Sam!

A very proud and attractive creature—and she knows it. Loved and spoiled, she is one-up on her human friends after having her portrait painted by **Bob Jones** (storekeeper) who told us that he had to study Sam for quite a long time—from a respectable distance—and take photographs of her before starting his art work.

Testimonial

In a few week's time—the 8th September to be exact—a wedding will take place in the chapel of St. Martin's Church, Oswestry. Taking the leading roles will be two young people from our Oswestry District, **Susan Powell**, a clerk in the General Services section and, **Bert J. Williams**, an electrician.

Conforming to tradition, Bert asked Susan's father for her hand in marriage. Naturally her Dad, **Ivor**, one of our engineering foremen at Whitchurch, wanted to know a little more about his future son-in-law's family and background.

So, young Bert deftly produced a 70-year-old letter, written by Lieut. Winston Churchill of the 4th Hussars. This gave a glowing testimonial to Number 2935 Private J. Williams—Bert's Grandfather. Ivor, of course, did not hesitate to give his approval.



Artist storekeeper **Bob Jones**, keeps top cat **Sam** in a happy mood as our photographer takes the picture with **Bob's** painting in the background.

OUR COVER PICTURE shows a copy of the testimonial from Sir Winston which helped Bert convince Ivor that he was the man for Susan.

We suspect that when the wedding takes place, there will be a couple of extra guests—unseen, but there in spirit—*Grandad and Sir Winston!*

That's Life!

Following up a 'story' from one of our customers, a member of the research squad from the BBC 'That's Life' programme telephoned our Information Office recently.

After checking the details, our man called back with the answers. Half-way through his explanation, the lady from the BBC broke in saying, "I can hear bells! Can you hear the bells?"

Thinking that maybe he was on to the wrong studio, our man had a quick look around for a Candid Camera then said, "No! there's no ringing at my end!" "Oh!" said the lady. "Then there must be a fire drill at our offices!"

Ah! Well! That's Life!

Return Visit

After a useful half-century of power generation, the station at Clarence Dock, Liverpool is to close in a few month's time.

Recently, at the invitation of Ray Dance, the superintendent

at Clarence Dock, former North Mersey District Engineer **Bill Sweeney**, took a nostalgic trip round the station where he spent his early working life just 50 years ago.

Bill recalled many happy memories of his beginnings in the electricity supply industry and of the full life of 'The Dock.'

In its day, it was a station of most advanced design giving power to Liverpool. Later, it withstood the bombing blitz to continue to serve the City and work to the end.

There's a small hotel

An administrative assistant in the General Services section at Lister Drive, **Mary Seibert**, recently left the Board to take up as a hotelier in sunny Southport.

Mary joined MANWEB straight from school in June 1968 and worked at our former Area 1 office in Hatton Garden. A few months later another recruit, **Norman Seibert**, joined us as a draughtsman in the same offices.

The couple dated and this led to their marriage in August 1972. They both moved to Lister Drive shortly afterwards where they worked in adjacent offices.

Now, they have decided to branch out and have bought the *Norwood Private Hotel* in Bath Street, Southport.

Norman said that he looked upon it as a property investment while Mary sees it as an opportunity to work for themselves.

They opened for business during the recent Bank Holiday week-end and, despite the atrocious weather, we sincerely hope that it was not a wash-out for their business.

Norman is continuing with his job in Liverpool District and will be helping out at the hotel from time to time.

Incidentally, they offer concessionary rates for MANWEB staff—especially for week-end breaks during the Autumn and Winter.

Judo Champion

A very proud father of a very talented son is **Dennis Williams**, an administrative assistant in our Gwynedd District.

Son Adrian recently battled his way through five bouts to—become the 'Junior Welsh Champion' in the 'Over 70 kg Open Class' at judo.

The championships were held at the Plas Madoc Leisure Centre in Wrexham. The new junior champion was presented with his gold medal by **John Myers**, from Head Office Revenue section, who, at that time, was Deputy Mayor of Wrexham Maelor.

To win his title, Adrian

Business venturers Norman and Mary Seibert seen here, centre, with some of their friends in Liverpool District who subscribed to present Mary with many gifts—all useful for the hotel—when she left the Board's service.





Judo champion,
Dennis Williams,

faced opposition from contenders from all over the Principality.

He took up the martial art of judo nearly 18 months ago when he became a member of the Bangor Judo Club. In a very short time he attained 'Orange Belt' standard.

Since his success at Wrexham, Adrian has now become the new Gwynedd Champion.

On Tour

Over the past few months, our Commercial colleagues at Aberystwyth have toured their District with a neat and compact exhibition featuring electric catering equipment.

Their idea was to help prepare their catering customers

Busy demonstrator Rene Morris, left, with a couple of customers at one of the electric catering exhibitions.



for the holiday trade in their area by showing and demonstrating the very latest time-saving and profit-making electrical aids for their businesses.

Rene Morris, the very capable District demonstrator, together with the energy sales team, put in lots of hard work taking the exhibition to Barmouth, Tywyn, Dolgellau, Machynlleth and Aberystwyth.

The amount of business transacted and the goodwill gained made the effort well worthwhile.

Wedding Bells

The old adage — "Absence makes the heart grow fonder" was well and truly proved with the romance of two of our North Mersey District staff, **Glenys Williams** and **Drew Kefalas**.

They first met when Drew went to work at Bridle Road in 1974 and he met Glenys. A deeper relationship developed when Drew was about to return to his homeland—New Zealand—two years later.

Parting proved to be too much for the couple and Drew was back again six months later after telephoning District Administrative Office, **George Shoesmith**—from 12,000 miles away—asking for his old job back.

Ever the romantic, George agreed and Drew caught the next 'plane.

And so to the marriage of

Glenys and Drew which took place on 26th May at the Spiritualist National Church in Liverpool. The happy couple honeymooned at Betws-y-Coed and are now planning a trip to New Zealand early next year.

Glenys, an audio typist, has made many good friends during her service with MANWEB. She joined us when Head Office was situated in Love Lane,



Marriage partners,
Glenys and Drew.

Liverpool, where she worked in the typing pool. Then she went to Derby House for a few months prior to taking up a post with the Consultative Council. When North Mersey District moved to Bridle Road, Glenys joined the staff there.

In Drew's comparatively short period with us, he too has made many friends.

From their colleagues, the newlyweds received a number of gifts and sincere wishes for a very happy future together.

The Wall Game

Following the recent spate of elections, one unsuccessful candidate sent a letter to his constituents thanking them for their support—even though he lost.

The last lines of his letter read as follows:

"I've already fought and won some battles, so if you are banging your head against the wall, I am always willing to try and help."

Who needs help?

LIVERPOOL RETIRED EMPLOYEES GROUP

Secretary Harry Robertson has asked us to publish the following notice. "Due to circumstances beyond my control, I have to re-arrange the dates of the next three monthly meetings of the Group. Will members please note that

Monthly Meetings

will now be held on:

18th July — 15th August

19th September

Please make a note in your diary NOW!"

Praise Indeed!

It's not often that members of local Councils sing praises of anybody, but MANWEB came out 'whiter than white' at a recent meeting of the Tywyn Community Council.

The debate was triggered off by complaints about work carried out in the town by contractors on behalf of another fuel board, which we shall call *****!

After complaining that trenches had been filled before damaged drains had been repaired, and that a town square had been used as a rubbish dump, members of the Council were loud in their praises for comparable work carried out by MANWEB recently.

Putting the thing on record they resolved that ***** be informed of their dissatisfaction, and that MANWEB be congratulated for the expeditious manner in which they had carried out their work!

Knights in shining armour who earned this accolade were Messrs. **Joe Braddock, John W. Conner, Will H. Jones, Gronwy W. Lloyd and Ron S. Pugh**, all of Machynlleth depot. The work involved lay-

ing about 670 metres of high-voltage cable, mostly in the main roadway. It was begun in March and finished at the beginning of May.

TO LET

Llandudno. Three bedrooms, will sleep five. Lounge, dining room, kitchen, bathroom. Nice quiet position facing park (tennis and bowls). Near beach, shops, theatres, swimming pool and Snowdonia. 'Phone: Llandudno 49239.

Special terms for electricity industry employees.

Luxury two and three bedroom bungalows in the Great Yarmouth area and Norfolk Broads. All-electric, TV, fitted carpets throughout. All sites are well appointed and there are several bungalows to let for most weeks. Just ring Mr. D. J. Baker, 01-529 0020 or write to 131 Old Church Road, Chingford, London E4 6RD, for further details.

Give a Pint-a

Staff at Head Office recently donated 250 pints of the 'red stuff' to the National Blood Bank.

Although many members of our staff may find it hard to believe, it is true that a pint of



Smiles all round at the Blood Bank.

real blood was taken from **Jim McLelland**, Personnel Officer!

He looked as though he enjoyed the experience too. Maybe this was to encourage **Bill Shires** our C.C.O. to give his pinta too!

NATIONAL INSURANCE CONTRIBUTIONS

Reduced rate contributions on Divorce or Annulment

Several instances have occurred recently of female employees on reduced rate contributions being faced with payment of arrears due to them failing to notify the Board immediately their marriage ends by divorce or annulment.

A woman whose marriage so ends, immediately loses her right to pay reduced rate contributions, and has to pay at the standard rate on all payments of earnings received after that date. She is required by statute to inform her employer that she is no longer entitled to pay the reduced rate and the certificate held by the Board will be returned to her so she can return it to the Department of Health and Social Security.

Staff concerned should be aware of their obligations under the Social Security Act 1973 and, if the above applies to them, they should immediately inform the Salaries section.



40 YEARS

Our Deputy Chairman with some of the recipients of 40-year certificates. *From left to right:* Messrs. Steve Reynard, Frank Hughson, George Brown and Richard Gales (*Deputy Chairman*), Mrs. Marjorie Whitlow, Messrs. Frank Astbury, Eric Lawson and Glwyn Williams.

Long Service Presentations at Head Office

1220 Years Recognised

Certificates for varying periods of service in the electricity supply industry, were recently presented to members of our Head Office staff who had completed 20, 30 or 40 years' service.



Mr. Bernard Scott, left, and Mr. Eric Hampton.



Miss Beth Tinsley and Mr. Matt Cowan.

30 YEAR STAFF



From left to right: Miss Jean Hannah, Messrs. Alec Whyte and John Green, Miss Nora Healey and Miss Pat Stubbs, Messrs. Hugh Hughes and Richard Gales (*Deputy Chairman*), Miss Pat Kay, Miss Marjorie Williams and Miss Sybil Timmins, Mr. Frank Threadgold and Miss Gwen Jones.

△ 30 YEARS

▽ 20 YEARS

From left to right: Messrs. Eric Richardson, Ron Neil, Bernard Alcock, Ken Mitchell, Bob Evans, Jim Barraclough, Richard Gales (*Deputy Chairman*), Keith Roberts, Peter Smith, Glyn Jones and Charles Blackwell.



HEAD OFFICE LONG SERVICE

40 Years Mrs. Marjorie Whitlow (*administrative assistant*). Messrs. Frank L. Astbury (*2nd engineer*), George Brown and Frank Hughson (*administrative assistants*), Walter R. Jones and Eric Lawrence (*principal assistants*), Steve J. Reynard (*3rd engineer*), Glyn B. Williams (*principal engineer*) and William M. Wood (*executive officer-retired*).

30 Years Miss Jean Hannah (*private secretary*), Miss Nora Healey (*machine operator*), Mrs. Pat G. Jefferson and Miss Gwen

G. Jones (*clerical assistants*), Miss Patricia M. Kay, Miss Patricia G. Stubbs and Miss Sybil Timmins (*administrative assistants*), Miss Elizabeth M. Tinsley (*private secretary*) and Miss Marjorie Williams (*clerical assistant*), Messrs. Tudor A. Colson (*principal engineer*), Matthew R. Cowan (*former Chief Commercial Officer*), John R. Green (*chauffeur-retired*), James E. Hampton (*2nd engineer*), Hugh Hughes (*principal assistant*), Robert J. Jones (*administrative assistant*), Bernard E. Scott (*1st engineer*), Tony P. Shell (*Administrative Officer*), R. Frank Threadgold (*executive officer*), Alexander P. Whyte (*Chief*

Accountant-retired), and Allen Worth (*work study assistant*).

20 Years Messrs. Bernard W. Alcock (*senior engineer*), Keith Baldwin (*senior executive officer*), Jim Barraclough (*Group Manager*), Bill J. Bartlett (*1st engineer*), Charles G. Blackwell (*administrative assistant*), Robert D. Evans (*Assistant Chief Accountant*), James E. G. Jones (*administrative assistant*), Ken F. Mitchell and Ron Neil (*3rd engineers*), Eric Richardson (*principal assistant*), Robert K. Roberts (*senior records draughtsman*), Peter Smith (*3rd engineer-Hoylake*) and Albert A. Thompson (*former draughtsman now tariff surveyor*).

Presentations at Liverpool

(continued from page 113)

Recipients of certificates were as follows:

North Mersey District

30 Years Mr. Albert Eyres (*District Engineer*).

20 Years Messrs. James Brennan (*meter reader/collector*), Bernard F. Butler (*meter reader*), William J. Hughes (*electrician*), Herbert W. Miller (*foreman, Civil Trades*), James F. Scogings (*driver-retired*) and Brian Stephens (*electrician*).

Liverpool District

30 Years Miss Joyce Barren (*clerical assistant*), Messrs. James Calvert (*foreman meter reader/collector*), William J. Cleugh (*joiner*), John M. Jones (*Production Engineer*), Edward J. Price (*meter reader/collector*), and Ernest J. Tupman (*foreman meter reader*).

20 Years Messrs. Michael J. Burke (*meter reader/collector*), Arthur L. Conah (*admin. assistant*), John K. Cook (*labourer-retired*), Alexander R. Eden (*electrician*), Norman F. Everett (*electrician*), Peter Falcon (*former District Administrative Officer*), William A. France (*installation inspector*), John E. Green (*foreman—Repairs*), Charles Hambley (*joiner e.h.t.*), John Howson (*chargehand storekeeper*), Patrick Jordon (*joiner e.h.t.*), Robert K. Lowry (*supply engineer*), Cornelius Nolan (*joiner's mate*), Christopher Rowlands (*meter reader*), Terence P. Simpson (*assistant storekeeper*), William R. Scrutton (*chargehand meter reader*) and Stanley Wappett (*2nd engineer, Commercial*).

North Wirral District

30 Years Messrs. William H. Bell (*electrician*), Thomas M. L. Ellwood (*installation inspector*),

Albert Hardman (*Works Study assistant*), Leonard Murphy (*foreman, Mains*), John E. Prescott (*electrician*), John Shaughnessy (*installation inspector*), John H. Smith (*fitter's mate*), and John Thelwall (*meter reader/collector*).

20 Years Messrs. Ronald D. Benson (*meter reader/collector*), John Crosby (*meter reader/collector*), William Dean (*joiner*), Stanley Edge (*joiner*), William J. Fleet (*labourer*), Benjamin Hardcastle (*storekeeper*), John Houligan (*labourer*), Samuel Lightburn (*joiner's mate*), Robert Lloyd (*chargehand electrician*) and Kenneth Winter (*meter reader*).

Obituary

It is with deep regret that we record the following deaths:

Mr. John Burtenshaw, aged 75, a stores records clerk at Rhostyllen, retired in 1968.

Mr. Eric Hampton, aged 56, a 2nd engineer in the Drawing Office, who had completed 31 years' service.

Miss Kay McDonough, a clerical assistant with North Mersey District, retired in 1975.

Mr. Alexander Sutton, aged 64, an electrician at St. Helens in Mid-Mersey District who had worked for 33 years with MANWEB.

Mr. John A. Sutton, aged 61, who retired from his job as 1st engineer in the Installation and Service section at Head Office.

Mr. Roy Slemen, aged 59, a 3rd engineer in the Drawing Office at Sealand Road. He joined us in 1956.

We extend our deepest sympathy to families and friends of these former colleagues.

Jogging for Cash

Excellent Effort to Raise Money



Our Chairman, Mr. Ben Hastings, fires the starting gun to send 'Joggers' Ian Jones, Sheila Godden, Sue Dutton and Celia Nield on their first circuit.

A CIRCUIT stretching over a quarter of a mile around the Head Office car park was coned-off recently in readiness for the great "Sponsored Jog" arranged for members of the MANWEB (Chester) Sports and Social Club and their families and friends.

Entrants ranged from dainty, well-shaped young girls to rounded, more mature gentlemen.

Some 41 joggers were sent on their way by our Chairman, Ben Hastings—with a few false starts due to a temperamental pistol.

Sheila Godden and three colleagues clocked up eight miles with Sheila herself jogging for five. She then cycled home—three miles away!

Bill Rogers ran, rather than jogged, for seven miles in almost record time. He could have done more but he had to play in a darts match that evening. He won his game too!

The far-from-lonely long distance jogger was Arthur Mackrell—with respect no longer a young lad—who covered 50 laps, 12½ miles, and looked as if he could have gone on all night. One of the youngest entrants, John Townend, did a creditable ten miles.

A leading light in the Sports and Social Club, Treasurer Eifion Jenkins, brought along his wife Ann, son Dylan and three-year-old Nerys, as a family of joggers. With the exception of Nerys, wise girl, who gave up after a couple of steps, they all did very well.

Chris Oxtoby, who gives the impression of having difficulty in jogging for 100 yards, surprised many people and cost them lots of sponsor cash by covering seven-and-a-half miles!

Geoff Green and Nigel Crossley, who had trained extra hard for the event by consuming large quantities of local brew, managed to cover 16 and 20 laps respectively.

An unusual lap was recorded by Emyr Jones who 'jogged' round the quarter-mile circuit on a space-hopper. Quite a feat!

The "Sponsored Jog" was a tremendous success raising around £500 for a local children's charity in this "Year of The Child." Thanks go to organisers Gren Roberts and Hugh Farrow, the marshals Jim Wilcock and Amlyn ab Iorwerth and lap recorders, Noreen Downey, Caroline Wright, Ann Morgans, Lesley Davies and Bob Liversage.

The line-up of some of the gallant 'Joggers' ready for "The Off!"





**Joyce Walker
and Sybil
Williams.**



**Pam Jones
and Gina
Featherstone.**



**Lisette Walker
and Jeanette
Woods.**



**Organisers Gren Roberts, left,
and Hugh Farrow.**

Camera on Course



**The Jenks
Joggers—
Eifion with
his wife
Ann, son
Dylan and
daughter
Nerys.**



**'Joggers' Nigel Crossley, Geoff
Green, Arthur Mackrell and Pat
Doyle press on as Chairman Ben
Hastings checks with the lap record-
ers in the background.**

**Another false start as the gun misfires once again. Waiting for the
Chairman to say 'Bang!' are patient entrants Bill Rogers, Ken Sinclair,
Elfyn Griffiths and John Townend.**



**Tail-enders — Jenny Toman
and Jane Pearson.**



WE WON THE CUP!

MANWEB Footballers Triumph Again



The MANWEB team show their jubilant feelings after winning the Chester F.A. Challenge Cup.

The Chester F.A. Challenge Cup was returned to the Head Office trophy display case after our footballers won it for the second successive year.

With forty teams already eliminated from the competition the MANWEB men met Newton Athletic in the final at the Chester F.C. ground in Sealand Road. The teams took the field on a cold windy evening and after a fairly even struggle the Newton side grabbed a goal lead just before the half-time whistle.

Shortly after the re-start, MANWEB's Jerry Banks levelled the scores. The rest of the second half proved a tough end to end battle, and with the

referee looking at his watch, extra time seemed inevitable. With one minute remaining Ian 'Billy' Jones picked up the ball just inside his own half and made straight for goal. He outstripped the defenders rounded the goalkeeper and stroked the ball home for the timely winner.

This win crowned a successful season for the MANWEB first team. It was their first in Premier Division of the league in which they finished fourth. Next season they plan for even greater success and want more players. Anyone interested should contact Manager Hugh Farrow (H.O. tel. 2438) or Secretary John Gorman (H.O. tel. 2835).

Members of the first team football squad playing for the very successful MANWEB (Chester) Sports and Social Club. From left to right, back row: Messrs. John Gorman (Secretary), George Hogarth (Trainer), Chris Pace, Ken Jones, Jerry Banks, Barry Hart-Davies, Malcolm Rowe, Paul Turton, John Kennedy, Dave Willetts and Eddie Phillips. Front row: Messrs. Rob Jones, Keith Dyer, Ian Jones, Nigel Hall, Brian Carman, Phil Roberts, Nigel Crossley and Vinny Dean.



RETIREMENTS



Staff from the engineering clerical section at Lister Drive surround 'Our Vicki,' Mrs. Victoria Roberts, as she pours the champagne on the occasion of her retirement from MANWEB.

Mrs. V. A. H. ROBERTS

Well known member of our Liverpool District staff, Mrs. V. A. H. (Vicki) Roberts, has retired from her job as administrative assistant in the Engineering clerical section after completing nearly 20 years' service with MANWEB.

Her first job was at the former Whitechapel shop in the City centre. From there she moved to the Kensington shop where she sold appliances, took accounts and answered the thousand-and-one enquiries from customers. Then she went to work in the engineering department at Lister Drive and progressed to the post she held on retirement.

A merry Mr. Charles Andrews enjoys his final fling on the occasion of his last day at work as a meter reader. Colleagues join in the farewell festivities as their parting gift of a radio, is presented to Charlie by Mr. Arthur Ellinson, centre left.



Deeply interested in all Board activities, Vicki served as a member of the LAC and Staff Committees and on the District Sports and Social Club. She helped organise the recent, very successful, Arts and Crafts exhibition for Liverpool District staff.

Vicki is looking forward to spending a little more time with husband George, who still has a year or two to go before he retires. Their daughter Val is chief stewardess, languages, with *British Airways* and lives on a farm in Italy where she breeds horses.

Friends at Lister Drive subscribed to a variety of farewell gifts for Vicki, some of which were presented to her by Mr. Gerry Haughan (*Deputy Chief Engineer*) who wished her every happiness and good health in retirement.

We too send our best wishes and our thanks to Vicki for her co-operation and helpfulness as our 'Contact' correspondent for Liverpool District.

Mr. C. T. ANDREWS

After distinguished service in the Royal Navy, during which time he survived many torpedo attacks by the enemy on various vessels in which he served, Mr. Charles T. Andrews joined MANWEB in September 1948. Now, after nearly 30 years' service, he has retired from his job as a meter reader based at our New Crane Street depot in Dee Valley District.

In his younger days he made quite a name for himself in the noble art of boxing and among his proudest achievements was an appearance at the famous Liverpool Stadium, scene of many pre-war championship fights.

After the war, he continued his sporting interests, branching out by running a local football team in Blacon, Chester.

During his 30 years with the Board, most of this

cycling around Chester and Ellesmere Port, Charlie has developed a great knowledge of the local geography. This has proved of invaluable help to his colleagues, especially new meter readers, in helping them find their way around the maze of streets in the built-up areas and to the isolated homes in the rural areas of Cheshire.

At a large gathering of his friends and colleagues at New Crane Street, Charlie received their farewell gift of a radio, which was presented to him by Mr. Arthur Ellinson (*District Administrative Officer*). A gift book, from the LAC, was also presented to Charlie by Mr. Keith Griffiths (*principal assistant-Administration*).

Mr. C. W. BUTLER

Ill health, unfortunately, brought about the early retirement of Mr. Charles W. Butler, a switchboard attendant in our Oswestry District, after nearly 25 years of loyal service to MANWEB.

Charlie, as he is known to his District colleagues, started work with the Board in July 1954 as a driver with the engineering section. A couple of years later he took over the job he still held on retirement.

Friends in the District, subscribed to a farewell gift of a

clock which, on their behalf, was presented to Charlie by Mr. Richard Owen (*District Engineer*). Also present at the ceremony was former District Engineer, Mr. Eric Davies.

Everyone who knows Charlie join in wishing him and his wife, many years of happy retirement with an extra special hope that Charlie will continue to enjoy his game of bowls.

Mr. L. HUGHES

A fully active working life of nearly 50 years came to an end when Mr. Leonard Hughes recently retired from his job as an administrative assistant in the General Services section in our Clwyd District.

Mr. Hughes started his career in 1931 with the Treasurer's department of the former Llandudno Urban District Council. During the war years he served as a sergeant with the RAF at home and in South East Asia.

Transferring to MANWEB in 1948, Leonard worked in the former Conway Valley District, later moving over to Clwyd District.

He has many 'outside' interests. For several years he has been a civilian committee member, and later Honorary secretary of the Llandudno and District Sea Cadet Corps. After serving for many years as Honorary secretary of



Mr. Leonard Hughes—
off into retirement.

the Llandudno Musical Players, he is now an Honorary Life Member.

He is currently Honorary secretary of the "Association of Friends"—a group of people who look after an old folks home in addition to supporting other charitable work.

Leonard's hobbies—when he can find time to follow them—include music, motoring and a spot of reading.

Some temporary redecorating of his desk area took place on the occasion of his retirement presentation ceremony at which Leonard was presented with farewell gifts from his many friends throughout the District.

Pensioner's Outings

The ever-active group of pensioners in our Mid-Mersey District recently added a theatre visit to their increasing list of activities.

They enjoyed an evening at the St. Helens Theatre where they saw The Unnamed Players in a Brian Rix farce "One for the Post."

A more recent outing saw the group at the Cheshire Workshops at Burwaldsey. Their next trip is to Scarborough.

Friends at Oswestry gather round as Mr. Richard Owen, centre right, prepares to present their farewell gift to Mr. Charles Butler on the occasion of his retirement.

