

WAR HERO PRAISES "SPECIAL PEOPLE"

FALKLANDS hero Simon Weston told everyone packed into the Moat House International Hotel for the Chronicle-Manweb Community Awards that they were all special by just being there.

It was a return visit for the man who survived the Sir Galahad attack — as he attended our first Community Awards gala evening four years ago.

Manweb's Chairman Bryan Weston confirmed that the task of picking just six winners from all those nominated had been harder than ever. This was due to the exceptionally high standard received.

Bryan Weston also paid tribute to television presenter Carl Hawkins who was announcing the winners, for being present after undergoing major surgery only a month earlier.

Nominations were chosen in seven categories, drawn from six distinct areas within the Chester Chronicle and Manweb's region.

OUR MAN OF THE YEAR Eric Robinson, has since his retirement, raised thousands of pounds for the blind by trekking thousands of sponsored miles.

In recent years Eric, from Hornby Drive, Nantwich, completed a 300 mile marathon across Ireland, walked from John O'Groats to Lands End and made solo climbs up the Matterhorn and Snowdon.

Halt

But it was last May, halfway through a 190-mile walk from Bees Head in Cumbria to Robin Hoods Bay, when a knee gave way, calling a halt to his long distance walking.

He is supremely proud of the fact that his love for walking has resulted in more than £30,000 being raised for needy causes. Among them is his favourite charity, the Crewe and Nantwich Talking Newspaper for the Blind.

OUR WOMAN OF THE YEAR Elsie Forster, has spent a life-time helping the community at large and has no plans to retire.

This year she celebrates 25 years of voluntary charity work including a long stint with the RSPCA and the last few years fund-raising and highlighting the plight of Cystic Fibrosis sufferers.

Discovered

It was a grandmother's need to help that led her to set up the Cystic Fibrosis Trust's Mid and South-Cheshire branch, seven years ago after

By Rob Skinner

it was discovered that her grandson William was suffering from the chest and lung condition.

She became branch secretary and five years ago opened up the Cystic Fibrosis charity shop in High Street, Winsford, which she runs practically single-handed.

With the money raised at branch level and from the shop, she reckons she will have helped amass a staggering £50,000 for the charity.

OUR CHARITY OF THE YEAR is the remark-

able Centre for Brain Injury Rehabilitation and Development at Broughton.

BIRD, as it is better known, is a registered charity which provides a unique and pioneering treatment for people of all ages who have suffered brain damage.

Success

In its 10 year life it has treated more than 1,000 patients and claims an 85 per cent success rate.

The treatment was developed by clinical director



Wonder woman Elsie Forster (centre) pictured collecting her trophy for Woman of the Year, from television presenter Carl Hawkins (left), and Guest of Honour Simon Weston (right).

David McGlown whose work has won international acclaim. BIRD provides treatment across the age range and no case is considered too severe.

To oversimplify the treatment, it involves a series of exercises to send messages to the brain.

The centre relies solely on public generosity and it is the only one of its type in Britain. The success of the fund-raising was demonstrated earlier this month when the Duke of Westminster opened a new £250,000 wing at the centre.

OUR BUSINESS OF THE YEAR is the Kimberly-Clark company which manufactures tissues and hygiene products at its factories in Deeside and Flint and has its European Services HQ at

Northop.

It employs 350 people at its £70 million main plant in Flint and an extension to the factory was opened by the Queen during the summer.

American-owned Kimberly-Clark won our award because it believes it has a role to play in the community which provides its work-force. It puts the emphasis on the stimulation of job opportunities, particularly for young people.

Encourages

It is now the main sponsor of an organisation known as Livewire Cymru, which encourages and gives professional assistance to young people in their own businesses.

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Picture by MIKE HALL

Launch time!

MANWEB Chairman Bryan Weston is pictured (left) arriving in appropriate style with Environment and Countryside Minister David Maclean at Ellesmere Port's Boat Museum. Mr Maclean was there to launch the Manweb-sponsored Mersey Basin Campaign Business and Environment Achievement Award. (See story, page 3).

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ALL ON BOARD IN WREXHAM'S NEW OFFICES

MANWEB Contracting Services Ltd put the seal of approval on their new Wrexham Industrial Estate offices by holding a board meeting in the new location.

Pictured (l-r) are MCSL Director John Astall (also Manweb Finance Director), Chairman Peter Hopkins (Manweb's Director, Trading), Don Kilgallon (Manweb's Assistant Company Secretary, here fulfilling the secretarial role for MCSL's board) and Managing Director Allan Littler.

As well as being a base for Manweb Regional Contracting the new offices, in Red Wither Road, are also 'home' to Allan Littler, Special Projects Manager Dave

Cousins and Accountant Brian Attwood.

MCSL's structure has been changed to focus on niche markets, with Central and Western Regions now forming a larger Southern Region.

Regional contracting Managers remain the same, but with new duties. In charge of major contracts in the Warrington-based Northern Region is Guy Wilcox, with Ray Appleton responsible for local contracts.

Southern Region has Arwel Lloyd (based in Wrexham) looking after major contracts, while Roy Haley (based Abergele) is in charge of local contracts.

Special Projects Manager Dave Cousins's responsibilities now include financial information technology.

POST BAG

WHY NOT TAKE TIME TO CARE?

Dear Editor

Having recently attended a Customer Relations course at Alvaston Hall, Nantwich, may I say what a pleasure it was to spend time with such a pleasant group of people. Thanks go to Martin Williams, the course facilitator, a man truly in command of his subject.

It was revealing to hear how other departments carry out their duties and what problems they face. Solutions to some of these problems were also offered and I thought it a pity that the managers of the various sections were not present to hear them.

Whilst I appreciate what the Company is trying to achieve with this course, we can never be as helpful to customers as we would wish unless we are given the time to do so.

A meter reader said that he had to make well over 200 calls a day and simply does not have the time to chat to customers. All they see of the 'Man from Manweb' is a dark blur as he rushes between calls.

This chap and his colleagues are often the only contact many of the public have with Manweb and if he is pleasant, then Manweb is a good company. If he has no time to be friendly, then Manweb comes across as a company which is not nice to do business with and the money spent on advertising is to no avail. It really is that simple.

The same principle must apply with our shop staff. We hear complaints from colleagues that they wait for half an hour in a Manweb shop and sometimes even walk out and are still not approached by an assistant. Again, this is not the fault of the shop staff. It is simply that there are too few of them.

Currys and Comet staff do not have to deal with power accounts, card reader problems, supply failures, holes in the pavement, contracting queries etc. The payment of accounts should be kept entirely separate from the sales floor.

I realise that the intention is to get the customer into our shops and make them walk through the appliances in the hope that they will click into the 'let's buy a cooker' mode. Again, Currys and the rest manage without this ploy and so should we. You can not have a pleasant sales pitch when, only a few feet away, an assistant is being screamed at by a chap with a dispute.

The complaints section should be isolated for the same reasons.

Many more instances could be given but they all come back to the same theme. If we are not given 'time to care', then how can we achieve Extraordinary Customer Relations?

I hope that this letter is printed. It is meant to be more constructive than critical. Why don't we adopt the slogan, 'Take Time To Care'?

Al Davies
Polyphase Meter Test
Queensferry

Success owes debt to Alan

Dear Editor

I read with interest the article on the introduction of hand held terminals for meter readers, which appeared in the February edition.

The article mentioned the names of some of the members of staff who have, apparently, been involved in this project but for some reason the name of Alan Bower was not mentioned.

Alan, who retired very recent-

ly, was the Project Manager. He was involved throughout the life of the project, from the selection of the equipment through to the design and development of the system and subsequent implementation.

The success of the system owes a great deal to his efforts during the past two years.

Alan Wadcock (former Head of Income and Accounting)
Wayside, 14 Manley Road
Frodsham

Support Cheshire's Crime Free Day

Dear Editor

Wednesday 28th April 1993 has been designed a 'Crime Free Day' in Cheshire.

It is the Constabulary's intention to take crime by the throat and do its best to deliver a crippling blow by a campaign over two weeks. Throughout the County the campaign will culminate in a major 'Action Day' on the 28th April during which we propose to swamp every area of the County in a major 'high profile' attack on crime.

We intend, by closing down numerous offices and departments in the Force, to place over 1,500 police officers, specials and cadets on the streets. They will be supported by civilian staff manning publicity points in town centres.

Profile

In the rural areas we are involving 150 Gamekeepers and 100 Countryside Rangers in a high profile rural campaign.

We also propose, both on the lead up and on the day, to target all 10-12 year old schoolchildren (30,000) and their families and 4,500 Homewatch co-ordinators. We shall be delivering direct to over 100,000 participating Homewatch homes, a pack relating to security and other campaign literature. In addition we hope to target every home in the County with Crime Prevention literature.

Our desire is to secure a top celebrity to front the campaign, and incorporate in a high profile other celebrities in numerous areas involving posters and hopefully personal appearances

on the day. We are liaising with Television (local and national), the Press (local and national) and Radio to cover the event.

The potential of the campaign is massive from the 100,000 direct delivery to homes through every town plus the huge tourist population of Chester and the surrounding area and the thousands of other people likely to see and receive the literature throughout the campaign.

We have enlisted support from numerous insurance and crime prevention companies through sponsorship along with Cheshire County Council who are also lending maximum support.

There is no doubt that the Cheshire Constabulary 'Vehicle Watch' scheme is an effective crime prevention initiative. The scheme operates between Midnight and five a.m. By displaying the dayglo yellow vehicle watch stickers on your vehicle you are encouraging the police to

check its occupants. People joining the scheme receive two stickers, and a leaflet which outlines the scheme, offers sound crime prevention advice, and the opportunity to obtain cheaper car insurance. All this for £1 per vehicle.

Willing

In the run up to Crime Free Day we are writing to companies such as yourselves in order to enlist your support. Are all of your employees in 'Vehicle Watch'? By enrolling company vehicles might you cut down on unauthorised use out of hours, or prevent the theft of the vehicles? Are you willing to sell 'Vehicle Watch' over the counter? All monies raised are used for Crime Prevention Initiatives. If you order in bulk it may be that we can offer discounts. Please contact myself or Sgt Dave Betts and if you wish we will come and discuss details with you.

Sgt D Coathup
HQ Crime Prevention Office
Police Headquarters

No change of rules

Dear Editor

I note in Contact that a number of retired members have won prizes in the Ambassador 2000 Club.

When I applied to contribute to the scheme I was informed that only serving members could take part.

If an amendment has been made, I would be obliged if you would let me have particulars.

R C Woodside
Hawksfield, Tarporley, Cheshire, CW6 0NQ
Editor's Note: According to the Ambassador 2000 Club, all the winners have been current employees. No prizes have been awarded to retired staff and the rules remain unchanged.

Red nose invasion underway

Dear Editor

Standby!!! Red Alert... Standby!!! It has begun, "The Invasion..." is underway.

Strangely different, more amusing and even redder than ever before Red Nose Day 4 is scheduled for March 12 1993.

In the meantime the best possible mode of survival is to join forces with family, friends and colleagues in a mass show of fundraising mayhem. Send off for your own indispensable "Invasion Survival Kit" in the form of the Red Nose Day 4 Fundraising Pack which is positively crammed with chortle inducing capers designed to raise funds for Comic Relief. Yours for the princely sum of 54p worth of stamps, send these with your name and address to:

Ros Skipper
Comic Relief
c/o BBC
Room AG17
252 Western Avenue
London W3 6XJ

Of course, as ever, behind our silly noses, there lies serious and important work all over the UK and Africa. The totally stonking sum of £70 million raised to date has been invested in carefully assessed long-term projects you'd be proud of. And we're still committed to our promise that 100 per cent of the money we raise goes directly on projects — all our fundraising costs are covered by sponsorship from businesses and individuals — Clever eh?!

Support

All this crucial work can only develop and succeed if we have your support on March 12 Red Nose Day 4.

So get everyone you know thinking about the most original and fun way to raise funds for Comic Relief this year. You can be wild and dress as a caveman, you can be respectable and organise an inter-departmental quiz, you can be revolutionary and get the bosses cleaning everybody's shoes — frankly, you can do what the hell you like, you heavenly folk, just as long as it raises a quillion of quids. Every bit of early planning — in personnel departments, in kitchens, in typing pools, in board meetings will help. So give it a try — mark March 12 1993 in that gorgeous desk diary and try to make it a special day — because the more fun you have — the more you will be helping vulnerable people.

Infiltrate

You can allow "The Invasion..." to infiltrate all corners of your life by buying a nose for your car or truck from Shell garages (£1.50 and £5.00 respectively), a nose for your door from Sainsbury's (£1.50) and (for that truly high profile show of allegiance) a nose for your building from DHL (£250 + vat). The brand new human nose will be available from Woolworths for the princely sum of 70p. Every penny from the sale of these will go to a charity project in the UK or Africa.

So what are you waiting for? Get ready for the most awesome Red Nose Day ever, buy your noses, get sponsored for Comic Relief and sleep with one eye open because they're coming and they're not human!!!

Lenny Henry
Comic Relief
(see address above)

AIR YOUR VIEWS

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 plc, Sealand Road, Chester, CH1 4LR, making 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.

There's a free Parker Rollerball pen for every letter published (offer applies to staff, retired employees and their families only).

CONTACT

The newspaper for staff and retired employees of Manweb plc, Sealand Road, Chester CH1 4LR, telephone 0244 377111. If you've an idea for a story or photograph, write, phone or come and talk to Editor Jackie Unsworth in Public Relations, Room 5E1, Head Office, ext. 2090, or Graeme Cooper on ext. 2099. At the following locations you can talk directly to one of Contact's District correspondents.

North Mersey: Pat Shaw, ext. 2204
Liverpool: Margaret Walsh, ext 4141
Mid-Mersey: Mike Townson, ext 2231
Dee Valley: Kath Sadowski, ext. 2183
North Wirral: Janet Ford, ext. 2360
Mid-Cheshire: Diana Wood, ext. 2117
Clwyd: Min Williams, ext. 2187
Gwynedd: Hefyn Thomas, ext. 2250
Owensry: Cherry Garbett, ext. 2201
Aberystwyth: Keith Jones, ext. 2202
Hoylake Training Centre: ext. 2512



The Magnificent Seven Chronicle-Manweb Community Awards winners pictured with their hosts on the night. From left (standing) are Leslie Ellingham from the Aquadis Swimming Club in Ellesmere Port; Brian Roberts from the John Summers High School; Chris Dutton our Young Person of the Year; Chronicle Newspapers MD David Faulkner; Manweb Chairman Bryan Weston; Brian Howard, the President of Kimberly-Clark, Europe and John Newcombe from BIRD. Seated are Monica Tweedle also from Aquadis; Elsie Forster our Woman of the Year; guest of honour Simon Weston; Eric Robinson our Man of the Year and television presenter Carl Hawkins our MC.



Standing Proud: 16 year old Chris Dutton, celebrating his award for Young Person of the Year, with Manweb Chairman Bryan Weston (left), guest of honour Simon Weston (right) and Chronicle Newspapers MD David Faulkner (far right).

WAR HERO PRAISES "SPECIAL PEOPLE"

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As well as providing £65,000 in sponsorship of new firms so far, Kimberly Clark services sector president Brian Howes chairs the board of directors of Livewire Cymru and another member of staff acts as an advisor.

The company also pledged £100,000 over the next 10 years to the Prince of Wales' Youth Business Trust in North Wales.

So far Kimberly-Clark sponsored the Clwyd Youth Theatre Christmas production of *Oliver* and is the main sponsor of Flint Town United football team.

OUR ENVIRONMENTAL AWARD goes to The John Summers High School on Deeside.

Its pupils have already won national acclaim for a study of the private lives of blue tits, on video.

The video project won the British Naturalists Society Blake Shield, the Clwyd Voluntary Services Council local endeavour award and national Canon Images in Education competition.

Honours

It has also won the school a prime spot on the BBC's Really Wild Show in February.

Now the school is being nominated for honours again for its badger video project which will reveal all about the secret life of this animal.

Work began at the beginning of last year with the children taking over an area of Wepre Park in Connah's Quay, and converting it into a badger sett complete with three chambers connected by underground pipes.

OUR YOUNG PERSON OF THE YEAR is Christopher Dutton, of Brunswick Crescent, Great Sutton, who staff at the Countess of Chester Hospital often joke works there full-time.

But 16-years-old Chris-

topher puts in his hours as a volunteer carer on the geriatrics ward for nothing.

He spends as much time as he can there during the week, starting at 7.30 in the morning, and working through to 6 in the evening. On the odd occasion, he has gone on until 10 at night.

Volunteer

In terms of the hours he puts in, that easily makes him the hardest working volunteer at the Countess.

When he's not doing his mega-shifts at the hospital, he also finds time to be a cadet sergeant in the St John Ambulance Brigade and a volunteer for the Countryside Ranger Service.

That's apart from cramming for his exams in the 6th form at Whitby High School.

His ambition is to become an ambulance paramedic.

As a volunteer Countryside Ranger for the past four years, this amazing young man assists the professionals with maintenance work in Ellesmere Port's green areas, helps with public talks and quizzes and lends a hand with junior rangers.

OUR TEAM OF THE YEAR is the Aquadis Swimming Club for Disabled People, at Ellesmere Port.

Regular swimming sessions are not only good therapy for the disabled — they also help buoy up the spirits of handicapped people.

Thriving

Formed 22 years ago, the club meets every Tuesday evening at the local pool and has a thriving membership of more than 100, which includes disabled swimmers and able-bodied helpers.

Instruction in the water can be given on a one-to-one basis and there is a specially adapted chair-lift for those unable to enter the water in the normal way.



GREEN ISSUES

Wind farm handed over

MANWEB's wind farm at Coal Clough near Burnley in Lancashire is now fully operational and has been handed over to management company Wind Resources by builders Renewable Energy Systems Ltd.

The 24 wind turbine development was completed on schedule and began generating electricity ahead of expectations in mid-December 1992. The wind farm's energy output is equivalent to the power needs of 7,500 homes.

Wind Resources Ltd is jointly owned by Manweb Generation Holdings Ltd (45 per cent), South Western Electricity (45 per cent) and Sir Robert McAlpine subsidiary Renewable Energy Systems (10 per cent).

Manweb Contracting Services Ltd was awarded the electrical contract work at Coal Clough. It was also responsible for all on site management cable laying, jointing and installation of earthing systems. Specialist fitting work and protection commissioning was sub-contracted to Mid-Mersey Network Services.

Manweb's first wind farm at Carland Cross in Cornwall was also developed through Wind Resources Ltd, and became operational last year.

Gone green!

CONTACT has gone 'green' and is now being printed on recycled paper.

The decision to use this type of paper is a direct result of concerns expressed by staff at the recent environmental roadshows. Some employees felt strongly that Contact could be produced in a much more 'environmentally friendly' manner.

Similarly, a number of staff felt it was also wasteful to mail Contact in polythene bags to home addresses, particularly when several copies are posted to households with more than one Manweb employee.

To help us gauge the views of as many staff as possible, this month's Contact contains a questionnaire covering these concerns and other issues. This will enable us to produce the staff newspaper that you want.



Pictured with the award are (l-r): Founding Chairman of the Campaign Sir John Tavaré, Stephen Broadbent, David Maclean and Colin Leonard.

Environmental Award Scheme launched

MANWEB is sponsoring a new Business and Environment Achievement Award to support the Mersey Basin environmental improvement campaign.

In a launch ceremony at Ellesmere Port's Boat Museum Minister of State for the Environment and Countryside David Maclean unveiled the award — a prestigious limited edition work by leading sculptor Stephen Broadbent.

The Mersey Basin Campaign is a 25-year initiative involving the public sector, private companies and voluntary groups to clean up the Mersey and its associated waterways. As a member of the Mersey Basin Business Foundation Manweb is helping harness the environmental work of the business community to the campaign.

The new award aims to encourage and acknowledge changes in working practices which lead directly to substantial and sustainable achievements in both the environment and business performance, and as well as the trophy, winners will receive £1,000.

Private and public sector organisations in the Mersey Basin are eligible to enter.

SERVING UP SAVING

TWO days on reduced rations didn't deter diners at North Mersey District office restaurant last month.

Staff there made do with soup and sandwiches while their catering facilities were refurbished.

And their co-operation was rewarded with a new-look kitchen which uses only half the amount of energy it previously used.

It took only two days for Stott Benham to install and fit the equipment as part of the overall refurbishment programme at the Bridle Road, Bootle premises.

New equipment — safer, cheaper to run and easier to clean — included an induction hob, two fryers, a combi oven and three worktables.

Pleased with the new look kitchen, Catering Manager Steve Wood said: "Up to

By Graeme Cooper

There will be a section for organisations employing over 100 people, one for medium or smaller companies with up to 100 staff, and a special agricultural category for individual farmers, estate managers, landowners or horticulturalists.

Speaking at the launch Manweb's Director, Power Marketing Colin Leonard said: "In our everyday dealings with customers we are coming across more and more examples of modern technology and working practices producing improvements in environmental standards as well as business performance. This award aims to show that protection of the environment can and should go hand in hand with economic progress."

The closing date for entries is 31 May 1993, and entry forms together with further details can be obtained from Terry Dunne, Business Marketing Manager on Head Office 2826.



65 per cent of our 240 district staff regularly use the facilities. Now I can provide the day's menu quicker, more efficiently and at the same time reduce the amount of energy used by half."

Steve went on to compliment the staff on their tolerance and understanding during the refurbishment.

Steve is pictured (left) with Customer Services Manager Len Cornah.

IN PRINT

CHESTER, Cheshire & Clwyd Society For The Blind has gone into print with the help of Manweb.

A new computer printer was presented to the Society in Chester by Bob McMahon, Head of Income. It was in return for help converting Manweb bills and statements into Braille for customers who are visually impaired.

IRONED OUT

MANWEB smoothed the way for a spot of fund-raising by donating a steam iron to the Cheshire branch of the Spastics Society. Ian McGregor, Manager of Manweb's shop in Bridge Street, Warrington, presented the iron to Gill Harper, the Society's Cheshire Community Fund-raiser. It will be used as a prize in a raffle

HOW MANWEB IS PUTTING THE ACCENT ON CUSTOMER SERVICE



Manweb's Customer Accounting Manager Ian Baird (left), Paul Tough, Area Sales Manager for Thresher, and Kate Dickins, Assistant Attendant at Thresher's Food and Drinks store in King Street, Wallasey, with some of the meter cards now on sale at Thresher shops on Merseyside.

Get your cards from Thresher

AS part of a continuing campaign to provide customers with a high quality service, Manweb has announced that electricity meter cards are now on sale at some Thresher stores.

Initially, the agreement covers all Thresher Food and Drinks shops in Merseyside together with seven of their Merseyside Drinks stores.

Ian Baird, Manweb's Customer Accounting Manager, said initial trials carried out with Thresher had proved to be very encouraging. "If this next stage proves to be equally successful, there is the great potential for further

Thresher stores in the Manweb area to be selling meter cards in the near future," he added.

Manweb has installed special electronic point-of-sale equipment in the Thresher stores to record details of sales which are then automatically collected daily by a computer system at Manweb's Head Office.

Paul Tough, Area Sales Manager for Thresher, said he welcomed this arrangement with Manweb as an extension of Thresher services already offered in stores in this area. Market research had already indicated that people were very pleased to be able to buy meter cards up to 10pm, seven days a week at their local Thresher store.

Ian Baird added that in principle there was no reason why, at some time in the future, customers of other utilities could not use these facilities to pay other types of bills in addition to electricity.

Details of all the Thresher stores which now sell meter cards are available from any Manweb shop or office or from any Thresher store in Merseyside.

Pleased with excellent standards provided

MP OPENS NEW LISTER DRIVE SERVICE BUREAU

THERE'S a new look in store for visitors to Manweb's Liverpool District Office following the launch of the new Customer Service Bureau.

Broadgreen MP Jane Kennedy was the guest of honour at the opening of the Bureau, which has been designed to put people at their ease when visiting Lister Drive.

Improve

Liverpool Customer Service Manager John Boyer said: "The Bureau is just part of a major drive to improve customer relations, including training for all of the District's 330 employees."

Jane Kennedy is pictured unveiling the commemorative plaque at the opening ceremony, with (l-r) District Manager Bill Tubey, Director Network Services Howard Kirkham, Chairman of the Customer Focus Steering Group, and Chief Executive John Roberts.



Survey to pinpoint those problem areas

NETWORK Services is sponsoring a major research project to assess the effect on customers when their electricity supply is interrupted.

The project is being carried out for Manweb by the University of Manchester Institute of Science and Technology over a two year period, and will involve around 9,500 customers selected at random.

The customers taking part — domestic, commercial and industrial — will be asked to complete a confidential questionnaire.

Project Engineer Huw Thomas, of Network

Planning and Operations, said: "It is important to have an understanding of how customers feel about electric power failures and to make an evaluation of their consequential costs."

"The survey will enable us to identify areas of the business customers are disgruntled with.

"It will undoubtedly be of value to us in planning for the future, and will help us to target our refurbishment and reinforcement spending so that we reach the areas where it is most needed."



FLORAL TRIBUTE

A SATISFIED customer said it with flowers and sent Gwynedd Clerical Assistant Joyce Morris a bouquet as a 'thank you' gesture.

The customer was delighted with the "efficient and prompt manner" an insurance claim had been dealt with by Joyce, who is pictured receiving the flowers from Customer Services Manager Dave Grady.

FOR the fourth month running, Oswestry District has made no guaranteed standard of service payments to customers.

"This is an outstanding achievement, and is clear proof of the excellent standards of service being provided," said Manweb's Chief Executive John Roberts, who has written to District Manager Mike Jones asking him to pass on his congratulations to staff.

Congratulate

Mr Roberts has also written to District Managers John Macdonald (Dee Valley) and John Hampson (Clwyd) to congratulate their staff for making no guaranteed standards payments during the month of January.

Cheshire serves up some presentation successes

WHEN Cheshire Region invited certain customers to lunch recently they were offered a great deal of food for thought.

The Region's 'over-one-megawatt' (OM) users were invited to attend one of a series of five lunches and presentations in the area, organised by the Cheshire Area Energy Sales team.

The events provided the opportunity for Area Energy Sales Manager John Shead to discuss Manweb's commitment to the larger customers and the ongoing development of the wide range of services available through Account Managers. This was followed by a talk on quality initiatives by District Managers and at two of the presentations, Major Accounts Manager John Ellis gave an update on the coal debate and the performance of the electricity pool.

The presentations were very successful

attracting almost 70 of the OM customers in the Cheshire Region.

John Shead commented: "The customers hosted are amongst Manweb's most important. The presentations gave us the opportunity to update these customers on further services available to them through their Account Manager."

The talks by the District Managers also highlighted our commitment to a high quality electricity supply and discussed our initiatives to achieve this.

"Our Account Managers are committed to guaranteeing these major customers the best possible customer service and our presentations were just one more feature of this service."

The picture shows Manweb staff with Mid Mersey District customers.





Compact scheme boost for school leavers

NORTH Mersey District has signed on to the Sefton Compact business/education partnership which aims to boost employment prospects for school leavers.

Compact Director Neil Mawdsley is pictured (centre) with Compact graduate Jenny O'Brien presenting North Mersey Customer Service Manager Len Cornah with Manweb's membership certificate.

Experience

Jenny — a former student at St George of England High School, Bootle — is already working for Manweb as a clerk/typist, and

more than 60 students have received 'hands on' experience of work through placements at North Mersey.

Sefton Compact is part of a nationwide network of education/industry partnerships in inner city areas. It aims to improve student motivation and achievement, increase post-16 participation in education and training and encourage the involvement of employers in providing jobs or training leading to jobs for successful Compact graduates.

The organisation 'bridges the gap' between school and work, with pupils becoming involved with Compact at around age 14. They and their parents sign up to a commitment with their school to achieve targets in areas such as attendance and punctuality, as well as undertaking a work placement.

Difficult

Manweb's Len Cornah said: "As a major company which recruits locally we are working to help young people themselves improve their chances of finding work in a difficult economic climate. Manweb, together with other local companies, schools and parents, is committed to Compact's goals and we're delighted to have now employed a Compact graduate."

Twelve local schools are now members of Sefton Compact, with three more set to join the partnership in 1993/4. Around 100 local employers are working with Compact, including Girobank, Whitbread and DKS Packaging.

CHANCE TO AIR YOUR VIEWS

ABERYSTWYTH Retired Staff Association Chairman Mal Evans reports another good year for the Association, with all events well attended, especially the Christmas lunch, which was open to all retired staff from the district.

The programme for the year will come to a close with the AGM on Thursday March 25, and this year there will be a free draw, an interesting

speaker and the usual first class refreshments.

Mal hopes for a good turn out for the AGM, to ensure that all views and opinions on both the association's future development and the coming year's programme are heard.

He said: "The size of the meeting is only limited by the capacity of the room at Lluest! Confirm the date in your diary now, Thursday March 25, 2pm at Lluest. See you there!"



Paul Cooney of the NSPCC is pictured receiving a cheque from Yvonne Lucy, with (l-r) fellow fund-raisers Ann Edwards, Norma Appleton and Sheila O'Connor.

SNAP TO IT



...and win a super prize

TIME has come once more for Contact readers to focus in on the annual photographic competition, and send us those pictures that could be winners for 1993.

We are looking for entries covering five categories: Colour Prints (any subject); Transparencies (any subject); Black & White (any subject); Children's Section (under 16s, any format or subject); Best Christmas Picture.

We also ask entrants to come up with appropriate titles for their pictures, which will help the judges pick out those lucky winners.

The competition is to be sponsored by Ascott's of Chester, whose Managing Director Richard Ascott, and one of his colleagues, will be joining our Head Photographer Mike Hall, to sift through all the entries and pick out this year's winners in each category.

The prizes at stake for 1993, are gift vouchers to be spent in Ascott's Photographic Shop, St Werburgh Street, Chester. Ascott's provide a comprehensive range of photographic equipment, including cameras, camcorders, binoculars, film, video tapes and developing and printing services.

Richard Ascott expressed his pleasure in sponsoring the competition for 1993: "I am delighted to be involved in selecting this year's winners, and hear that the standard is usually very high. It will be a difficult task choosing which entries become overall winners."

RULES

1. Entry is free, but is restricted to Manweb staff, retired employees and their immediate families.
2. List your entries with titles and classes, together with your full name and home or office address on a piece of paper. Also attach a piece of paper containing your name, home or office address, title and class of entry to each photograph and slide. Failure to do this could mean disqualification. Do not write on the back of photographs.
3. Up to five entries per person in any one class will be allowed.
4. Each entry must be the original work and copyright property of the person submitting it.
5. All entries must have been photographed after January 1992.
6. The Editor reserves the right to reproduce any prize winning pictures without a fee being paid.
7. The competition will be judged by an independent panel.
8. All entries must be received by Monday, May 3, 1993.
9. Entries should be sent to: Rob Skinner, Contact, Room 5E1, Manweb, Sealand Road, Chester CH1 4LR. Please mark your envelope or package "Photographic Competition" in the top left-hand corner.
10. The winners will be announced in our June 1993 edition.

LUCY'S RIGHT TYPE FOR CHARITY

SECRETARY Yvonne Lucy found the key to success when she embarked on a fund-raising typing venture.

Yvonne, Secretary to North Mersey District Manager Terry Keenan, enlisted the help of her colleagues in the Secretariat at Bridle Road, who between them have raised more than £800 for charity.

"The Children In Need appeal in 1991 had me thinking what my section could do to raise money for charity. People are always asking us to do personal typing, so after gaining permission to use the Company's equipment, we decided to do this sort of

work in return for a donation to our 'Charity Box'.

"The girls and I were absolutely overwhelmed at the generosity of North Mersey staff and we've continued with our 'box' ever since."

So far the 'Charity Box' has helped Children In Need, the NSPCC, and the Fazakerley Special Baby Care Unit. The typists are currently trying to raise funds for Liverpool-based charity 'Kind'.

The funds were boosted to

the tune of £150 at Christmas when Clerical Assistant Dot Leatherbarrow held a raffle.

IN THE PICTURE

PHOTOGRAPHER Mike Hall will be out and about visiting various Manweb locations over the next few weeks taking pictures of staff in their working environments. The photos will be used in this year's annual report.

A hillside fortress which has withstood invasion for thousands of years proved no match for 20th century technology. In fact, the sky was the limit when Manweb adopted a 'softly softly' approach, hired a pair of helicopters and took to the air-waves!

UPGRADING Manweb's mobile radio communications posed a monumental problem for the Company. The scheme involves replacing old and outdated radio masts, including those that have stood for 40 years on Moel Hiraddug, the hillside overlooking Dyserth in North Wales.

But fears that the associated construction work would damage the ancient hill fort site, which dates back to between the fifth and first centuries BC, led to Manweb going to extraordinary lengths — and heights — to keep ground disturbance to a minimum.

The only way to avoid churning up the ground was to hire two Bell Jetranger helicopters — the type normally used for overhead line patrols but minus doors and seats to give added lifting power — to transport all the building materials to the site.

Masterminding the operation was Civil Project Engineer Clive Manchester, of the Central Field Unit. He said: "We would normally use JCBs and other heavy vehicles on a job like this, but they do tend to churn up the ground."

Demolished

"As Moel Hiraddug is an ancient monument we went to a great deal of trouble — and expense — to avoid causing any disturbance to the site. Using helicopters was the only way we could guarantee this."

The helicopters are needed on four separate occasions during the 16-week project, which is now well underway. The work entails replacing two old masts with a single 15 metre mast and building a new radio station. The original building has been demolished.

It is anticipated that Manweb's Metering and Telecoms Department will be able to fit out the new radio station with its new equipment by early May.

Using a nearby farmer's field as a makeshift landing pad, the helicopters initially transported 15 tonnes of fluid concrete and a further 10 tonnes of bricks, sand, cement and water, using containers

Special report by JACKIE UNSWORTH
Pictures: Adrian Chesworth

and canvas slings.

A week later the helicopters, supplied by Edinburgh-based Lakeside Helicopters, were back to ferry a total 68 tonnes of fluid concrete and other building materials to the top of the hill.

Remove

When the brickwork for the new radio station has been completed, the helicopters will return to carry three tonnes of slate for the pitched roof, and at the end of the project they will remove an estimated 35 tonnes of rubble, tools and other equipment from the site.

Manweb's Head Office-based Property Services Department worked closely with CADW, the Welsh heritage agency, the

AIRLIFT HELPS SAVE HISTORIC FORT SITE



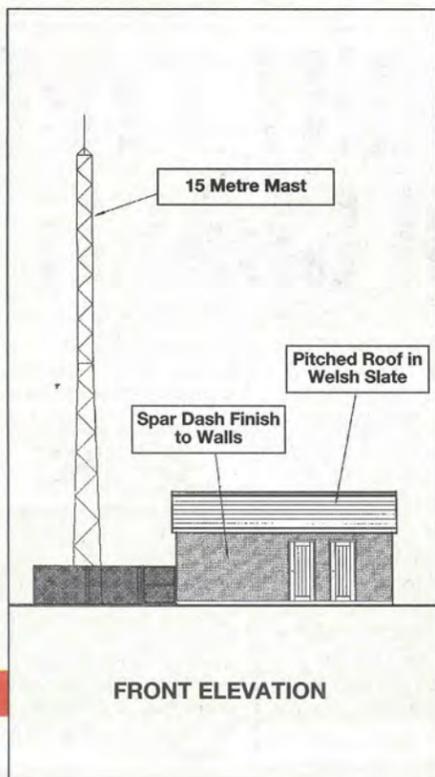
Bird's eye view of one of the helicopters making a delivery to the construction site at Moel Hiraddug.

local authority and other organisations and groups to ensure the environmental impact of the scheme was minimised.

Manweb Estates Surveyor John Townend said: "Obviously there was a great deal of concern in case we damaged this historic monument and that any artifacts still beneath the ground might be destroyed. We employed Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust to carry out an excavation

of the site before we began the work, but all they uncovered was one ancient hammerstone."

Unfortunately for the contractors from Wrexham-based A T J Whitley, carrying out the building work for Manweb, they don't have the luxury of a helicopter 'lift' to the site every morning, and instead face a fairly strenuous climb at the start of the day!



One of the helicopters takes off with its weighty cargo whilst the other comes in to land.



SCANDINAVIAN
SEAWAYS

Special Offer



3 DAY MINI CRUISES FROM ONLY £54 PER PERSON

CONTACT and Scandinavian Seaways have combined to bring you an exclusive special offer...a 3-day party cruise to either Denmark, Germany or Sweden. From just £54 per person this bargain break is going to be in demand.

The offer is valid on the following dates:

DENMARK:	GERMANY:	SWEDEN:
MARCH 19, 21, 22, 24, 26, 28, 29 & 31.	MARCH 18, 20, 22, 24, 28 & 30.	MARCH 12, 19 & 26.
APRIL 2, 4, 5, 12, 14, 16, 18, 19, 21, 23, 25, 26 & 28.	APRIL 1, 3, 5, 13, 15, 17, 19, 21, 23, 25 & 27.	APRIL 2, 16, & 23.
MAY 5, 7, 9, 10, 12, 14, 16, 17, 23, 24 & 26.	MAY 7, 9, 11, 13, 17, 19, 23 & 25.	MAY 7, 14 & 21.

...ADD £10 PER PERSON SUPPLEMENT IF DEPARTURES ARE ON FRIDAY OR DURING THE FOLLOWING BANK HOLIDAY PERIODS: 8-12 APRIL, 30 APRIL - 3 MAY & 28 MAY - 31 MAY.

The price includes a return sea cruise aboard one of Scandinavian Seaways sleek white liners. On board, you will be accommodated for 2 nights in an air conditioned cabin, with shower and wc. Each morning there is a buffet breakfast to set you up for the day and on your arrival at your chosen destination, there is a sightseeing tour organised, offering you a short time ashore to sample the delights of Northern Europe.

There is a varied entertainment programme organised in the nightclub, with a resident band and a separate discotheque to dance the night away. Fancy a gamble, then there is the casino, offering Roulette and Blackjack. There are cinemas showing the

latest releases or why not relax with a sauna. (There is a small charge for these facilities).

Then there is the food, and what choice you have. There is excellent value and quality in the cafeteria. Sample the Smorgasbord in the main restaurant. A Scandinavian buffet, as much as you can eat! Or for a celebration, there is the fabulous A-la-Carte restaurant, offering a menu of international cuisine in all the style and splendour. (Meals are not included).

To book on one of these superb breaks, simply telephone the Scandinavian Seaways Travel Sales Department: 0255;-241234 or 240240, making sure that you quote the special offer reference X489.,

All bookings are subject to availability. Minimum of two passengers per booking. This offer is not valid for single cabins. Maximum of two child discounts per adult. Children aged 4-15 inclusive qualify for 50% discount.

This offer closes on the May 26, 1993.

The casino and sauna facilities are not available on all ships!



Bricks are ferried to the hilltop site in a canvas sling.



Project Engineer Clive Manchester (left) and Site Co-ordinator Chris Stevens, of [unclear] and Telecoms, oversee the work at Moel Hiraddug.

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Bricks are ferried to the hilltop site in a canvas sling.



Bird's eye view of one of the helicopters making a delivery to the construction site at Moel Hiraddug.

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Civil Project Engineer Clive Manchester (left) and Site Co-ordinator Chris Stevens, of Metering and Telecoms, oversee the work at Moel Hiraddug.



its weighty cargo whilst the other comes in to land.

SAFETY



FIRST-AIDERS PRAISED

SAFETY-conscious staff at North Wirral received praise from North Wirral District Manager Phil Ramsey when he presented them with certificates to mark their qualifying as first aiders.

Quick thinking by Construction Section Painter Brian Emberton came in for special commendation. His first aid saved a subcontractor from severe disfigurement after an accident with hot roofing bitumen at a Wallasey substation.

Staff from the Bromborough-based Revenue Protection Unit and Queensferry Appliance Repairs also qualified.

Pictured at the presentation are (l-r back): Ros Lowther, Clerical Assistant in Appliance Repairs at Queensferry; Steve Gauller, Technician at the Revenue Protection Unit; Training and Safety Coordinator Steve Holmes, who carried out the first aid training; Roy Rawnsley, Meter Operative; Neil Attwood, Contracting Electrician. Front row (l-r) are: Paula Vaughan-Smith, appliance Repairs Clerical Assistant; Kathleen Cooney, Revenue Protection Clerical Administrator; District Manager Phil Ramsey and Brian Emberton (with gift to reward his speedy first aid). Ruth Reynolds of Special Project could not attend to receive her certificate.



KNOWING WHAT WENT WRONG

DEE VALLEY Health & Safety Week, which featured in last month's Contact, invited the District's staff to try their luck at a competition designed to keep them on their toes in aspects of Health and Safety at work.

Pictured above are the winners of Dee Valley's "What's Wrong?" competition, who outlined the most hazards that appeared in posters around the District Office, and Legacy and New Crane Street garages.

From left to right, Arthur Hughes, Health & Safety Coordinator joins John MacDonald, District Manager to present the prizes of £30 Manweb gift vouchers to winners Simon Twigg, Legacy Garage, Steve Jones, Network Services, David Hughes, Network Services and Kim Jones, receiving on behalf of Rachel Jones, Customer Accounts.

A considerable amount of new health and safety legislation has recently appeared on the statute book as a result of EC Directives. This month a resume of the Health and Safety (Display Screen Equipment) Regulations 1992, known to many as the VDU Regulations, is provided.

Risk assessment is a key factor

The Regulations together with a guidance document were issued in December and came into force on January 1 1993 although any workstation first put into service on or before 31 December 1992, has until 31 December 1996 to meet the requirements of a schedule contained in the regulations.

Risk assessment is a key factor of the Regulations and the principal risks identified in the Guidance Document are physical (musculoskeletal) problems, visual fatigue and mental stress. These are risks to the 'user' the 'user' being defined as an employee who habitually uses display screen equipment as part of his/her normal work.

Assess

In order to assess the risk to the 'user', the employer must analyse the risks out of or in connection with such a person's normal workstation concerned. The risks must be reduced to the lowest extent practicable.

Regulation 4 of the regulations covers Daily Work Routine of the 'user' and specifies that work activities must be so planned that he/she can have breaks or changes of activity. A further Regulation deals with 'User's' eyesight. Employees about to become 'users' or who are already 'users' can be provided with an eye and eyesight

By
COLIN HERBERT
Corporate Health and Safety Manager

by the Company. If on further examination of the eye it is determined that the 'user' requires corrective spectacles for display screen work and that normal corrective spectacles cannot be used, they have to be provided free of charge.

Information

The regulations require 'user' to have information on the measures taken by the employer in compliance with his/her duties as a 'user'. Also before becoming a 'user', every employer should be provided with appropriate health and safety training in the use of the workstation.

"PERSONS FALLING"

ACCIDENT statistics for the period April to December 1992 show that from 72 reportable accidents (involving more than 3 days off work), 25 involved person falling, an unusually high proportion.

Slip off fixed stairs and steps accounted for 5 accidents.

Falls off ladders and stepladders claimed 6 victims, and four people slipped getting in and out of vehicles.

The other 10 have involved people falling out of trees (2), people getting their feet stuck in rabbit holes (2), falling off or over the kerb (2), slipping on a greasy surface in the yard (1),

slipping whilst carrying jack hammers out of vans (2) and 1 person who fell into an unguarded trench. The injuries received covered all areas of the body and ranged from sprained ankles to fractured ribs and cuts on the head.

All involved people being off work for more than three days.

If we all use a bit more common sense and literally *think before we step* I'm sure we can cut this unnecessary toll of injury and time off work.

It's up to us - let's see if we can do better in the next few months!!

Chance to join record breakers

A CHALLENGE has gone out to Manweb staff to play a part in smashing a world record.

At the same time, those taking part in a massive fund-raising event on July 11 will be helping terminally ill children.

The Adventure Farm Trust, a North West-based children's charity, is planning to stage the biggest aerobics session ever. It will be held at the G-Mex Centre in Manchester, and around 35,000 'world recordbreakers' ranging from nine to 99 years of age are expected to take part.

Nine action-packed aerobic sessions, each of forty minutes' duration, will be lead by a team of 100 qualified aerobic instructors.

Bruce McLean, of the Adventure Farm Trust, said: "Bearing in mind the charitable nature of the event, we hope to inspire people from all walks of life who might otherwise

remain unmotivated.

"The concept of setting a world record while helping terminally ill children has already captured the imagination of everyone we have spoken to. This includes secondary schools, youth organisations, leisure and sports centres, companies large and small and even the Guides and Scouts.

"What I would really like to

see on the day is a team of Manweb employees taking part in the event."

As an additional incentive, everyone taking part gets a prize, from the special event tee shirt to the chance to win one of two star prizes - VIP flights for two to New York.

For further information and entry forms, call the event hotline - 0565 830447.

CLWYD AWARDS

LONG serving Clwyd employees received their awards at a special presentation ceremony at the Oriol House Hotel, St Asaph.

The framed certificates were presented by District Manager John Hampson, who is pictured (front right) with the recipients, who were as follows:

From left, back row: Brian Parry and Bill Edwards (30 years), Geraint Parry (20 years), Vic Hooson (30 years), Colin Edwards (40 years), Derek Roberts (20 years), Dick Evans (40 years), Alan Jones (30 years) and Margaret Fountain (20 years).



KATH HELPS 'EVERYBODY' – AND HIS FRIENDS

'EVERYBODY' is happy down at the donkey sanctuary thanks to the efforts of Part-Time Sales Assistant Kathleen Houghton.

When animal lover Kathleen encouraged her Warrington Superstore colleagues to adopt a donkey at the 'Shetland Rescue', in Hale, Merseyside, they jumped at the chance.

"The sanctuary actually was mainly for ponies but they had just the one donkey named 'Everybody' — which we decided to adopt," said Kathleen.

The money raised helps to pay for the donkey's food, shelter and general upkeep.

Kathleen and her colleagues were presented with a certificate and picture of 'Everybody' and will be offered the chance to readopt the animal in a year's time.

"I've been to see the sanctuary and found that the animals are very well looked after, but money is needed not only for their upkeep, but to help buy the land to keep the sanctuary open," said Kathleen.

Kathleen has been interested in animals for as long as she can remember. She is a member of the RSPCA and involved with other sanctuaries. She has transformed the garden of her home near Warrington into a wildlife garden which has attracted over 20 species of birds. "I've always loved animals and feel that they tend to be forgotten when

People tend to forget about animals

people are asked to make donations to charities, so I decided to do my bit to help," she said.

The 'Shetland Rescue' was started in 1981 when founder Diane Strongman came across a distraught pony, 'Dan', about to be sold for slaughter. She borrowed the money to buy him and then devoted her life to providing shelter for sick, neglected and injured ponies.

Unfortunately Diane died in 1990 and recently her husband decided to move from the five acre site and put it up for sale.

"This poses a problem," said Kathleen. "There are now 34 ponies at the sanctuary and we would love to keep it going, but we need cash to put in a bid for the land."

So Kathleen is now extending her appeal



to other Manweb stores in the hope that they may adopt a pony or help in some way. "Anyone with a weekend to spare could volunteer to help at the sanctuary, for example," she said.

Any reader interested or requiring further

information should contact Kathleen on 0925 852686.

* 'Everybody' got his name because he was the loudest to respond when Diane used to visit the stables each morning and shout 'good morning everybody' to all the animals.

HUGH IS HEAD OF STRATEGIC STUDIES

HUGH SADDINGTON (pictured) has been appointed Head of Strategic Studies at Head Office.

Hugh (33) previously worked as a strategy advisor for leading UK contracting and construction group AMEC plc at its Northwich Head Office. With AMEC he gained wide experience of business strategy issues across a diverse range of work.



Prior to joining AMEC he worked as a strategy consultant with PIMS Associates in London, where he undertook strategy projects for a wide range of European-bluechip companies.

Hugh pursued his undergraduate studies at Liverpool Dental Hospital, gaining a bachelor's degree in Dental Surgery. He worked as dentist for several years before moving into business. In 1988 he received a masters degree in Business Administration (MBA) from Manchester Business School.

He said: "I shall be contributing to the continuing development of Manweb's strategy, building on the success we have already achieved. This will involve working with our directors and managers, looking at strategic opportunities related to our existing businesses and helping to identify new opportunities for further exploration."

Married with one daughter, Hugh lives in Chester. He lived in Knutsford as a youth and attended Wilmslow Grammar School.

CHANGING FACES



Gordon is pictured shaking hands with Manweb Chairman Bryan Weston, who presented him with gifts including a portable television on behalf of Gordon's many friends and colleagues.

CHEERS TO TWO

NORTH Mersey staff gathered to wish two of their colleagues goodbye and good luck on their retirement.

Electrical Inspector Derek Pierce had clocked up 30 years' service, while Chargehand Ron Draper had completed 28 years with Manweb.

In his spare time Derek is keen on playing football and enjoys various other sports. He is also a D-I-Y and country music enthusiast.

Ron, who was based at Southport Depot and who joined the company as an Assistant Storekeeper, enjoys swing music and collecting Glenn Miller memorabilia, including tapes, books and records.

North Mersey Customer Service Manager Len Cornah is pictured (front centre) with colleagues at a retirement party for Derek (to his right) and Ron (to his left).



Now Gordon will keep on travelling

CHAIRMAN's Chauffeur Gordon Phillips reached a crossroads in his career when he took early retirement in January.

Gordon, who had clocked up 27 years with Manweb, reckons he must have covered at least half a million miles in that time, driving for three successive Manweb Chairmen and three Deputy Chairmen.

He held a clean driving licence throughout, never once having been stopped by the police for speeding while working for Manweb. However, Gordon confesses to having been fined the princely sum of £3 for speeding in 1963, when he worked as a driver for ICI!

It was in his early days with Manweb that Gordon had a miraculous escape from a freak accident in which he could have lost one of his legs. He said: "The then Deputy Chairman Glan Gwyn drove himself from home to the old Head Office at Love Lane, where I was to take over the driving.

"He stopped the car, an automatic Mark 10 Jaguar, outside the office but left the engine running while he went round to the passenger side. But as I climbed in, my foot went straight on the accelerator and the car took off, going straight over a nine inch step and smashing through the doors of the office, with me hanging half out of the car.

"The car went straight through an antique table in the reception area before hitting a wall. It was a write-off, but incredibly I wasn't injured, although my leg could so easily have been crushed!

"Apart from that, I've had a very quiet life with Manweb!" he added.

In his retirement father-of-five Gordon plans to put a few more miles on the clock of his own Audi 100 — but with wife Beattie behind the wheel!

"I enjoy visiting other places — which is why I've enjoyed my job so much — so in my spare time Beattie and I will do a spot of travelling together," he said.



Now it's more golf for Alan

FRIENDS and colleagues, present and past, gathered on the East Wing in Head Office to wish a fond farewell to Alan Evans who retired in his 37th year of service to Manweb.

Alan joined the Company in Newtown as an apprentice electrician in 1956 and completed his apprenticeship to become an electrician in 1962.

He was closely involved with the development, introduction and control of pay and productivi-

ty schemes on joining Management Services and progressed through the ranks of Works Study Assistant, Works Study Officer and to 2nd Engineer during the period 1968-1989.

In 1989 Alan was appointed to Network Services as 1st Engineer (Statutory) where amongst many other achievements he managed the smooth transfer of statutory activities into Network.

Ian Basford (Special Projects Manager) is pictured presenting Alan and his wife Beryl with cards and presents from his many friends in Manweb.

Alan can now concentrate on improving his golf handicap and providing more of his hard earned time to his family and in particular his children Ian and Laura.

GOING EARLY

PERSONAL Secretary Rosie Richards has taken early retirement after completing 26 years' service with Manweb.

Rosie, whose husband Bobby also works at Rhostyllen as a Meter Reading Foreman, was the 'right hand woman' to Dee Valley District Manager John Macdonald until she left at the end of February.

* Taking early retirement at the end of March is Pam Callaghan, who works within the Accounts Department at Rhostyllen. Pam will have clocked up 22 years' service with the electricity supply industry.

OBITUARIES

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

Arthur Yates, who died on November 19 aged 73, was a General Duties Assistant in Mid Mersey until retiring in 1983.

Stanley Herbert Philip Boylin, 91, who died on November 27, worked as a Substation Attendant in Area 4 before retiring in 1966.

Noel Morris worked at Legacy Depot as a Storekeeper before retiring in 1988. He died on December 12 aged 68.

Thomas Francis Smith, 73, who died on December 14, was a Meter Reader/Collector in Liverpool before retiring in 1976.

Thomas Alfred Robertson, who died on December 14 aged 66, retired in 1990 from North Wirral, where he was a Craft Attendant.

Sidney Thomas Kirby, who died on December 16 aged 78, was an Admin Assistant in Dee Valley before retiring in 1979.

Thomas William Jones, 74, who died on December 18, retired in 1977 from Head Office, where he worked as an Admin Assistant.

William Henry Jones, who retired in 1972 at Llandudno Junction, where he was a Labourer, died on January 3 aged 85.

Charles Vincent Jones, 73, who died on January 4, was a Clerical Assistant at Dee Valley until retiring in 1981.

Thomas George Jones Parry, who was an Admin Assistant at Head Office until retiring in 1973, died on January 4 aged 83.

William Hewson Bell, who died on January 18 aged 72, retired in 1982 from North Wirral, where he was a Craftsman Electrician.

Richard Williams, 92, who was a Linesman Sub Station Attendant in Area 4 until retirement in 1965, died on January 21.

Jean Frith, 68, who died on January 24, was a Clerical Assistant at North Wirral before retiring in 1981.

Frederick Henry Wightman, who died on January 27 aged 63, was a 2nd Engineer at Dee Valley until retiring in 1990.

Charles Warburton, 75, a Craftsman at Mid Mersey before retiring in 1982, died on January 28.

Edward Grimmant, who died on January 30 aged 73, retired in 1984 at Liverpool, where he was a General Duties Assistant.

Helen James Griffiths, 62, who was a Clerical Assistant at Head Office until retirement in 1991, died on February 2.



Divisions in control

MANWEB has announced some important changes to its Corporate Services group which are designed to give the Divisions greater accountability and control over their businesses and the work carried out for them.

Following an organisational review carried out in recent months, the Company has decided to disband its Management Services Department and absorb the staff within the operating Divisions, with effect from the end of February.

In addition, Hoylelake Training Centre has been transferred out of the Human

By Jackie Unsworth

Resources Training function into Network Services, under the responsibility of District Control Manager Jim McLennan.

With the exception of the Department's Head Philip Walker, who has now left to pursue his career outside Manweb, all Management Services staff — 18 in total — are being offered alternative posts within the Company, without loss of salary or grade, to make best

use of their qualifications and skills.

There is no change in the organisational structure of Hoylelake Training Centre, which employs around 18 staff reporting to Manager Don McRae.

Manweb's Chief Executive John Roberts said: "It has always been my aim to devolve as much as possible to the divisions to give them complete accountability for their business units.

Organised

"Our strong view is that the type of work carried out by Management Services should be organised from within the operating Divisions rather than by a central unit.

"This is not in any way an adverse judgement of the work Management Services has been carrying out. Far from it, it is simply the acceptance that if we are to develop our business units properly they should carry out this type of work in-house."

Projects currently being carried out by Management Services will be completed, but any future work of this nature will be handled by specific project teams, cross-Divisional in some cases.

High marks for shop staff

SMART Sales Assistants Melanie Jones and Lynne Hocknell have gained high marks in the 'Business Basics' training programme for Manweb shop staff.

Melanie, of Bangor Shop, achieved a Credit, while Lynne, who works at Whitchurch Shop, has been awarded a Distinction.

Last month we published a long list of staff who have received the Manweb

Certified Award of Retail Excellence (CARE) but unfortunately Melanie and Lynne were omitted.

Sound service

DEE Valley District played 'fairly godmother' to the Holt Theatre Players by providing a sound system for their production of Aladdin at Holt Community Centre.

Proceeds from the show went to the Hope House children's hospice in Oswestry.

CASH DASH PULLS IN THE POUNDS

TWO members of Energy Sales Wales completed an around the country cash dash for Children in Need and Wrexham based Operation Christmas Child.

Account Manager Chris Jones and Project Assistant Karen Brown visited all regional electricity company headquarters collecting cash for the two charities.

Chris did the driving whilst Karen was the perfect navigator (this is the girl that can't tell left from right!)

"We had an amazing response from all the Recs, some giving us gifts and others feeding us," said Chris.

Bert Hurford, NORWEB's Head of Administration, is pictured (right) pre-

sending Chris and Karen with a donation when they arrived in Manchester.

"The Cash Dash was supported and followed by Marcher Gold, MFM and HTV and during the three days it took us to travel around the country we had regular spots on the breakfast and drivetime programmes in which we linked up live with the studio," said Chris.

"Fund raising efforts have not been completed yet and so far we have raised almost £1700."

Manweb has been challenged by BT to play a game of skirmish (war games) for charity and if anyone is interested in joining the team, contact Chris on 0244 317385.



FLOWER POWER PAYS OFF FOR CHRIS

CHRIS HUBBARD has combined her love of sewing and painting into a novel art form which has her colleagues queuing up with commissions.

It was only a couple of years ago when a friend saw one of Chris's works and ordered one for herself. The unique pictures proved to be so popular that Chris has been busy with needle and brush ever since.

A special exhibition at Head Office further enhanced her reputation and put her pictures more firmly in the spotlight. The subject matter is usually flowers or plants. The stems and leaves are in thread and the flowers in silk. Petals are embroidered in silk material and the background a silk-paint finish. The result is a sub-

tle but shimmering work of art.

Now Chris creates to order: "I'm often asked to portray someone's favourite flowers or use certain colours to match their own decor," she said.

One colleague wanted a Scottish theme with thistles and a background of Scottish hills and lakes.

Her busiest time came between October and Christmas last year when she undertook 20 commissions. "The pictures sell at around £40 but it's the frame that's the biggest expense," said Chris.

Now Chris, a word process operator, Major Accounts, faces a bigger challenge. "The Chairman's Secretary has a photograph of her daughter's cottage and has asked if I can portray that," she said.

MORTGAGES FOR SALE TO MANWEB EMPLOYEES

SAVE £100 ON YOUR TOTAL BILL

- ★ SOLICITORS BILL REDUCED BY £50 AT SOURCE
- ★ IMMEDIATE ACCESS TO ALL LEADING LENDERS
- ★ 1st TIME BUYERS DISCOUNT AVAILABLE
- ★ 100% MORTGAGES AVAILABLE, SUBJECT TO STATUS
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HOLIDAYS

B&B Accommodation - In Traditional Welsh Cottage built 1867. Convenient for A55 at Halkyn. Full English breakfast, TV all rooms. Ideal for walking and riding. Good pubs locally. Tel. 0352 781146.

Llandudno - Branstone Hotel, privately owned and licensed. Central, level position close to shops and promenade. Special offer for Contact readers: £12 per person B&B until March 31 (5-course evening meal available at £6 per person) en suite £16.50 per person. Bookings now being taken for the Llandudno Victorian Extravaganza May 1, 2 and 3, 1993. Book early to avoid disappointment. To make your reservation ring Jan and Geoff Cole on 0492 876448 and don't forget to mention Contact.

Greenacres - Porthmadog, 34ft 6/8 berth caravan, 2-bedrooms, gas fire and cooker, fridge, shower and toilet, colour TV. Club, playground and swimming pool on site. Tel. 0691 773708.

South West France - Ex-ESI employee and his wife offer secluded countryside guest house, set in 3 acres near Moissac. Golf, swimming, tennis, sailing etc all nearby. Open all year. Group language and/or special activity hols. Regional, traditional, vegy and special diets. Discounts for ESI staff. B&B, HB, from 250 Francs p.n.p.c. Write or phone David and Jenny Boniface - D'Astros, Le Pin, 82340, Auvillar, France (010-33-63-95-95-20)

Llanberis - Foot of Snowdon. Luxury flat in country house, sleeps 4-8. Also smaller flat for 2. All mod cons, quiet, ample parking, short breaks up to Easter, brochure. Tel. 0286 871097.

Greenacres Holiday Park - 6-8 berth luxury caravans, 2 swimming pools, family clubs/entertainment, bowling green, golf and tennis, 2 mins from award-winning Black Rock Sands. All amenities on site, competitively priced, all dates available. Tel. 0352 741027 after 6pm.

South of France - Frejus, 6-berth mobile home on 4-star site with all facilities. Available May 1993 to September 1993. For details tel. 0686 625355 (evenings).

North Wales - B&B en suite accommodation in converted barn, within area of outstanding natural beauty. Ideal base for walking, fishing, riding etc. Tel 082 42 4047 (Ruthin).

Machynlleth - B&B self catering cottage situated outskirts of historic Mid Wales town. Sandy beaches of Aberdovey and Borth easily accessible. Sleeps 5 + cot, from £130 - £160 p.w. Ring Mrs Powell on 0654 702206.

French Alps - Between Annecy and La Clusaz. To let, a traditional Alpine farmhouse set high in the lovely Maningod Valley. Fully modernised accommodation on one level, three bedrooms, sleeps 6-8. Large open plan kitchen, dining and lounge area with balcony and large verandah. New shower room, separate toilet. Stunning views of the Aravis mountains. Skiing, tobogganning, skating in winter. Walking, sailing, swimming, riding in summer. Call P Moray on HO ext 2311 or Mrs Bennett on 051 342 7334 for availability and photos.

Falaise - Normandy, 18th Century farmhouse, large gardens, tastefully restored. Near historic market town, sleeps 4-6, from £100 pw. Tel. 0244 317820.

Pwllheli - North Wales, detached bungalow, sleeps 6. Superb views, fully equipped, inclusive of linen and electricity, convenient to all amenities. Tel. Pwllheli 612353.

Colwyn Bay - Swiss style Chalet, sleeps 6, electric heating, Bathroom, flush toilet, fridge, colour TV, garden and parking. Situated in beautiful woodland dell near Eirias Park and beach. Weekly rates or weekend or mid-week breaks. Tel. 051 678 9854.

Cumbria - Newly appointed cottage. ETB 4-key commended. Peacefully situated on small farm. Hadrian's Wall area. Sleeps four. Short breaks available, open all year. No pets. Tel: 0228 75650.

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

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

Algarve - privately-owned villa set in large gardens in the Monichique Hills. Split level dining room, good kitchen facilities, utility room, two good-sized bedrooms, terraces with garden furniture. Panoramic views of the west coast 24kms away. Swimming pool, maid service food hamper provided. Flights arranged. Tel: 0352 86709 or fax: 0492 540457.

Port Grimaud - Six miles St Tropez. Four/six berth caravans with electricity, hot and cold 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. Contact C. Jones, 2 Meadow Drive, Porthmadog. Tel: 0766 512519.

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.

Blackpool - Kenley Hotel. Small, friendly and licensed. Excellent home cooking, most rooms en-suite. B&B from £12 per night, E.M. optional. Ring Pat or Graham on 0253 46447.

Weston-super-Mare - Static caravan on farm. Six berth, separate double bedroom, shower, toilet, TV etc. All season price £70 per week. Tel: 0934 750 292.

South of France - 6 berth mobile home near to Monaco, Nice, Cannes, St Tropez, all facilities on site, swimming pool, restaurant, bar, shop etc. Further details from Malcolm Williams, Tel: 0544 267579.

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 heater and large inglenook fireplace. Ample parking and grounds. Kennel for pet by arrangement. Easy access to mountains and sea. Beautiful scenery and walks. Prices from £100 to £220 per week. Tel: 0341 423912.

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 making facilities, some en-suite rooms available, excellent home cooking, served at separate tables. Tel: 0492 877677 or write for brochure to Mr and Mrs G Evans, 2 St Seiriols Road, Llandudno, Gwynedd LL30 2YY.

Anglesey - B&B/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.

Snowdon - Quiet valley, modern flat with all facilities. Sleeps four. Beautiful views, free fishing. Contact Mrs A. Bohannon on 0286 85537.

Caravan - New 31', 6/7 berth, all mains services. Gas, electricity and colour tv included. Sited on Haven's Ty Mawr Holiday Park near Abergele (Dragon Awarodd). Free entertainments, heated indoor swimming pool, family club, disco, children's Tiger Club etc. Near all major resorts. Tel: Chester 372860 for details. Families only, sorry no pets. Discounts for Manweb employees and families.

Sailing Holidays - Artemis Comet's 850 (28ft) bareboat charter, Moody 37, bareboat or skippered charter. Corfu based. Tuition available. Full inventory. Contact H. J. Hargrove on 0270 67556.

Orlando - Florida. To let, luxury holiday home on Buenaventura Lakes Golf and Country Club (15 mins from Disneyworld). 3 beds, 2 bathrooms, will accommodate up to 8 persons. Private swimming pool. Use residents' golf club. Full management service on hand. For further details ring 051 625 8202.

Lanzarote - Playa Blanca, 1 bed villa on small development with pool, bar, tennis court, luxury kitchen, lounge, private garden with BBQ. Available May and November. Tel. 051 336 8678

Snowdonia - Bungalow near Harlech with wide sea views, 3 double bedrooms with bunk/playroom with 6 bunks. Ideal for 1 or 2 families. TV, garden and ample parking. Prices from £150 to £250 per week. Tel: 051 336 1709.

North Wales - six berth caravan to let, fully equipped, peaceful countryside, 6 miles from Bala, £10 per day. Tel: 049084 208. Ring 0437 731375.

For Charter - Luxury 56ft steel ketch, Uisce Beatha. Join us for the holidays of a lifetime cruising the beautiful Hebrides and West Coast of Scotland. Visit the islands of Jura, Mull and Skye. Luxury crewed yacht for 6 guests. No experience necessary, skipper looks after you. Good food and company in a relaxed atmosphere. Also ideal for incentives/promotions for staff and clients. Brochure on request, including details of winter season in Canaries. Telephone: Melford Charters on 051 207 4069.

Jersey - Channel Islands. The Willows Hotel, Grand Vaux, St Saviour, Jersey JE2 4NB. New, purpose-built hotel, completed May 1991. One and a half miles from St Helier, situated in the lovely Grand Vaux Valley. All bedrooms en-suite, colour television, radio, direct dial telephones, tea and coffee-making facilities. Economy 7 electric heating, hair driers and shaving points. Choice of menu, also self catering apartment. Ten per cent discount to Manweb staff and retired employees, tel. 0534 36267.

Ruthin - B&B in converted barn. En-suite, private sitting room, excellent area for pony trekking, walking, fishing etc. Tel. 08242 4047.

Benalmadena - Costa Del Sol, studio apartment suitable for 2/3. Splendid pool and other amenities. Tel. J. Flanagan on Chester 341097.

Cornish Cottage - with garden. Gwinear, Hayle. Peaceful countryside, convenient location, sleeps 2/4. Tel. 0736 850389.

Llandudno - Hollybank Edwardian Hotel. Small, friendly, non-smoking, elegant licensed hotel. Central position and with own car park. Full central heating and spotlessly clean. Spacious comfortable en-suite rooms with free colour TV and drinks facilities. Dinner optional - excellent cuisine. Nightly or weekly terms. Reductions for OAPs and children. SAE please for brochure to Mrs. R. Antrobus, Hollybank, St. David's Place, Llandudno LL30 2UG. Tel. 0492 878521.

FOR SALE

Belling Format - Ceramic hob cooker in white, 6 months use, as new, fitted kitchen in new house focus sale, £550 ono. Oak 3 piece suite, Belgian style, solid but could use new covers. £75. Electrolux fridge and freezer units, offers. Old dark wood wardrobe £15. Miscellaneous PC bits, call for list. Contact Ian Stockdale on head office 3081, office id stockid or 0352 781443.

Oars - As new, unused, 7ft. Will suit any small boat, £10. Tel. Mr J Gerrard on 0244 683083.

Sterling XL - Invalid Electric Scoota, as new, unused, £1,500 ono. Tel. Mrs Gina Hodrien on int. ext. 85519 or 051-678 7390 (home).

Bargain - Luxury 2-berth Abbey GT213 caravan, 1986, vgc. H/c shower, oven, fridge, mains charger and cable, trio awning, spare wheel etc, £3,500. Tel. 0978 364677.

Pentax - ME Super 35mm camera, automatic with manual override. Excellent condition, complete in original boxes and case, £125 o.n.o. Tel. Mark Hughson on HO int. ext. 2964.

Snowboard - With boots and bindings. Ideal beginner's board, suitable for dry slope, £115. Tel. 0925 763820.

Hoovermatic - De luxe twin tub, used four times only, 18 months old, £175 o.n.o. Tel. 0244 372753.

Wedding Dress - White satin, embroidered size 12. Also tiara style headdress and veil, £200 (will sell separately). Tel. 051 343 1610.

Wedding Dress - 1992 design by Benjamin Roberts, long sleeved, white. Long train, heavily embroidered, pearl and sequin detail. Size 14, cost £895, will sell for £350. Also, matching white long veil with pearls, sequins and crystal tiara type headdress. Cost over £120, sell for £50 the two. Two pink bridesmaid dresses, size 12 and size 14/16. Cost £75 each, will sell for £35 each. Large silk flower bride's bouquet, pear-shaped pink and white. Two adult size matching bridesmaid posies, cost £130. Sell for £60 the lot. Contact Linda on 051 526 7623 after 5.30pm.

PROPERTY

Wallasey - 4 bedroom house in Rice Lane. 2 entertaining, large kitchen, £29,950. Tel. Graeme Cooper. Head Office 2089.

Terraced Cottage - In Cheshire village, two bedrooms, fitted kitchen, gas central heating, double glazing, exposed beams etc, £59,950 (greatly reduced). Tel. 0829 40569 (evenings).

Rhyl - Bungalow apartment with spacious living area, separate entrance hall, kitchen, dressing room and newly-refurbished bathroom. Situated in a quiet cul-de-sac with lawned garden and parking space. Close to all local amenities. Suit first time buyers or retirement couple. Offers around £28,000. Contact Tracy on 0745 330168.

Woolton Village - Two-bedroom bungalow, fitted kitchen, gas central heating, well-stocked easily-kept gardens, quiet sought-after area within 10 minutes walk of all village amenities. Includes fitted carpets, no chain, £64,959 o.n.o. Tel. 051 428 9975.

LEISURE

Organ Players Club - Meet monthly at the Bronze Club, Wallasey. Ring Norman Carew on 051 639 6329 for dates.

Canal Restaurant Boat - 'Judith Mary' welcomes parties of up to 35. Cruise for 2 1/2 to 3 hours on the Shropshire Union Canal from Chester Basin (by Telford's Warehouse). Good food at reasonable prices, with fully-stocked bar, central heating, taped music etc. Enjoy a relaxing break in different surroundings. Why not arrange a party outing? Ring Keith or Pat Sowden for details on 9244 383887.

Sea Fishing - On board Miranda out of Holyhead, Anglesey. Deep sea, reef or wreck fishing. Trips arranged for 4 to 12 hours, licensed and insured for parties of 12. Boat, hire from £50. Rods, tackle and bait available. Contact Kevin Wright, Miranda Sea Angling, Mon Elan, Moelfre, Anglesey, Gwynedd. Tel. 0248 88459.

Deep Sea Fishing - Pwllheli, North Wales. Starlight offshore 27 turbo, fully equipped. Tel. Mark Lewis: 0925 860269.

Fly Fishery - Gweryd Lodge, Llanarmon-yn-Ial, Mold. Superb fly fishing on a great 122-acre lake. Boats for hire. Contact John Stowell on 08243230.

Tennis - Liverpool Electric Supply Tennis Club welcomes new member, established or beginners. Club sessions Sunday am/pm and Wednesday evenings. League matches played mid-week evenings. Contact Ken Rigby at Lister Drive, int. ext. 2170 or 051-254 1900.

PERSONAL

Starlight Video Services - A professional service for your very special day, no obligation, video available. Ring Sylvia for a chat. Tel. 051 737 1111.

Croft Paving - Block paving specialists, driveways, patios, car parks, used flags supplied and laid, quality workmanship at the right price. Phone for free quote. Tel. 0925 763820.

Clewyn Hughes - Landscape contractor, driveways, paths, patios in block paving, fencing, turfing, rockeries, stonework, planting etc. Member of the Guild of Master Craftsmen. Tel. 0745 826962.

Locksmith - 5-lever mortice locks fitted to all insurance specifications. All types opened, repaired and fitted. Locks fitted to aluminium doors. Tel. 051 498 4603 or 051 220 9100.

Treework and Landscaping - Specialist, all aspects of treework undertaken, trees lopped, thinned, pruned and shaped. Dead or dangerous trees felled. Trees, hedges and shrubs supplied and planted. Ponds and rockeries designed and built. Turfing, fencing and patio work also available. For expert advice, free quotations and friendly service tel. Lee Hewitt on 051 355 8929.

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Quality - Replacement windows, doors and conservatories, UPVC hardwood, aluminium. Free estimates, all work guarantee, 10% discount for Manweb employees. Tel. 0244 549449 or 0352 758793 after 5.30pm.

County Wills - Make a Will. There is now a convenient method of making your Will. A consultant visits your home at a time to suit you. Private and confidential, anywhere in the Manweb area. Get a leaflet from your District Office or contact County Wills, 0477 33447.

10% Discount - To all Manweb staff. Suits 'U' and Juliano Italia, two shops within the Albert Dock, Liverpool. Suits 'U' (formerly above 'L' for Leather) now at 5 Britannia Pavilion, Albert Dock, 051 707 0980. Juliano Italia, 14 Britannia Pavilion, Albert Dock, selling designer suits, jackets, shirts, etc. from Milan, Genoa and Naples. Fantastic styles, competitive prices. Both shops open 7 days a week, 10am to 6pm, free parking.

Wedding Photography - Capture the informal pictures of bride, groom, guests, etc. that the official photographer misses. Let me be your 'back-up' photographer on the special day. 80 7.5" x 5" photos chosen from 100, £70. Contact Ken Smyth on H.O. int. ext. 3207 for details.

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Crazy Caricatures - The ideal gift for any occasion, leaving parties, retirements, etc. 10 per cent discount for Manweb staff. Contact Sandra on 710 2332 (North Mersey int.).

Artist - Portraits painted. No charge if customer is not satisfied. Tel. 0248 355592.

Crystal Karaoke - Laser, for private parties, office parties, weddings, etc., reasonable prices from £45. Tel. 0352 770 429.

The Ferris - Manweb's own trio are available for your Manweb function. Please contact P. Keenan, Q'ferry internal 4216 if you require first class live entertainment.

A&R Photographic - For your high quality wedding photographs and family portraits at highly competitive prices. Contact Ray Rowland on Chester (0244) 376369.

Floor and Wall Tiling, contact J. W. French on 0492 583347 or Glyn Jones at Flint Shop. Over 30 years' experience.

TUITION

Driving Lessons - Robin Jones School of Motoring. Department of Transport approved driving instructor. Member of the Institute of Advanced Motorists, ROSPA Advanced Driving Certificate. Member of the Motor Schools of Great Britain. Special discount for Manweb members. Beginners to advanced, motorway course, dual control Metro. Free pick-up service. For details tel. 0831 584643 (daytime) or 051 339 8135 (evenings).

Guitar Tuition - Howard Evans, B.Mus. - classical guitar tuition in Aberystwyth area. Music reading and all aspects of playing and performance techniques. Associated Board examinations. Contact W M Evans, 0970 86755.

WANTED

Dead or Alive! - East European motorcycles and parts, preferably non-runners, for North Wales club activities. Age and rust not a problem, must be cheap. Or if you run one of these machines and would like to know more about the club, just give us a ring. Dave for Cossack and Neval on 0244 821933, Steve for MZ, DKW Puch on 0352 758351, James for Jawa, CZ on 0352 752049.

NEW FITNESS CENTRE A GREAT SUCCESS



Open for business...Chief Executive John Roberts cuts the ribbon to launch the new Fitness Centre, with Sports Club Chairman Eifion Jenkins (left) and fitness consultant Robert Drillsma. Also pictured (back row, l-r) are Kathy Baron, Gillian Lees, Nikki Shalloe, Sara Kirk and Gary Jenkins, who will man the new Fitness Centre.

They're now waiting to join in

By JACKIE UNSWORTH

PEDAL power came to Manweb when Chief Executive John Roberts got on his bike to launch the new Fitness Centre at Head Office.

A firm believer that a healthy workforce is a happy one, Mr Roberts decided to try

out some of the new exercise equipment for himself.

The Fitness Centre has been installed in one of the Sports and Social Club rooms at Sealand Road, with state-of-the-art fully computerised rowing machines, exercise cycles, stepping, running and jogging machines, and muscle toning equipment.

Sports Club Chairman Eifion Jenkins, Manweb's Accountancy Manager, said: "The Fitness Centre has been a great success so far. We have already had to temporarily close the membership at 350, and there is now a waiting list!"

He added that some of the Districts, through their own Sports and Social Clubs, are exploring the possibility of opening their own Fitness Centres.

Members are being asked to pay a £5 subscription per month and this will be used for the upkeep of the Fitness Centre.

Manweb is using the services of health and fitness consultant Robert Drillsma and his staff, who are manning the Fitness Centre and providing expert advice for users.

Before trying out the

Expert advice for users

equipment, users are given a 'Lifestyle Assessment' to check their weight, blood pressure, diet, illnesses and any physical problems.

The next step is an induction course to show staff how to safely use and correctly set the computer controlled equipment. Personal physical exercise programmes are provided for every user.

After several months members will be offered reassessments, so that their progress can be checked and physical exercise programmes can be altered accordingly.

The Centre is open for business seven days a week, between 7am and 10pm. Anyone wishing further information should contact Sports Club Administrator Sue Linton on ext 2538.



Chief Executive John Roberts exercises some 'pedal power', watched by fitness consultants Nikki Shalloe (centre) and Sara Kirk.

WALK IN TO ZOO FUN DAY

MANWEB bosses are being invited to 'take a walk on the wild side' at Chester Zoo to help the city's Business Club raise money for endangered species and local charities.

The club's annual Bosses' Challenge walk will take place on 25 April, so there's just time for Manweb's busy executives to get in training to support local good causes!

The event is now in its 6th year, and Manweb's managers have an excellent record of participating. Numerous local charities benefit, and for the first time endangered animal species will also be helped.

Sponsored walkers will complete a ten mile route around Chester before being admitted free of charge to the zoo for the final leg.

There's also a special draw for people who sponsor the walkers. Top prize is a luxury weekend in London's Drury Lane Moathouse Hotel, with 10 runners up prizes of bottles of Champagne.

They also stand a chance of winning a 'very major' prize — details are still under wraps at time of going to press!

On the day there will also be 'Cheetah and Tortoise' animal adoption awards for the fastest and slowest competitors, presented by the Lord Mayor of Chester to the accompaniment of a brass band!

For the winners (and others more adventurous walkers!) there will be the chance to visit the Lions' Den!

It promises to be a fun day

for all concerned, with walkers' families admitted to the zoo at 1/3 normal price (or free if they are sponsored to walk!). A subsidised lunch will be available for walkers and their families, and sponsors will also receive subsidised entrance rates.

For entry forms and further details contact Bob Hodson, Head of Energy Sales at Head Office, room 2E2. Tel 2643.

Trio in the swim and in the money



MISSION ACHIEVED

MANWEB is to blow the whistle on its sponsorship of the Cymru Alliance after achieving its goal of helping set up an all Wales league.

After three successful seasons Manweb has decided not to take up the option of renewing support for the North Wales based soccer alliance in 1993/94.

Manweb Chairman Bryan Weston said: "In sponsoring the

Cymru Alliance we aimed to strengthen football in North Wales, with the aim of creating an all Wales league. This has been achieved and we feel it is now time to spread our support to other areas of the community."

John E Lloyd, Chairman of the League's Management Committee said: "Without Manweb's support the alliance could not have developed into the premier league covering central and north Wales. We owe Manweb a great debt of gratitude."

The Football Association of Wales is confident it will attract a new sponsor for next season.

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AN intrepid trio of Aberystwyth staff braved the cold and took the plunge in the icy waters of Cardigan Bay to raise money for charity.

District Manager John Brown, John Carwyn Williams, of Contracting, and Mike Jones, of Appliance Repair, were amongst a dozen brave souls who took a winter swim in aid of Childline Wales.

With the sea temperature an invigorating 7C (45F), a quick dip had been planned, but unfortunately the local photographer missed the shot and the waves had to be braved a second time!

But there was some consolation to be found in the coffee — liberally laced with rum — which was served up to warm the shivering participants!

John Brown is pictured (left) with John Carwyn Williams and Mike Jones back on dry land.