

Merseyside and North Wales
Electricity Board

Editorial Office: Room GE26
Head Office, Sealand Road,
Chester CH1 4LR
Tel: Chester (0244) 377111
Internal: 2933/4/5

Vol. 39. No. 10

OCTOBER 1987



The two winners of the MANWEB Area 'PEP' Awards and five highly-commended recipients. Pictured, left to right, are: Bob Swingler, Chairman, Vactite, Bootle; Mike Hendrick, of the Welsh Development Association, representing Pwllheli Brick and Block Ltd.; and Ken Rimmer, of Merryfall Farm, Whitley—all Highly Commended; John Askew, Business Manager, Dexter Midland Coatings, Deeside—Winner; Peter Hopkins, Commercial Director; Bryan Weston, Chairman; Graham Day, Rover Group Chairman; Ron Culnane, Business Manager, Laporte Industries, Widnes—Winner; and, also Highly Commended—Glyn Catley, Engineering Manager, Aluminium Corporation, Dolgarrog; and Graham Bleasedale, Managing Director, Mersey Can and Drum, Birkenhead

NO LOSERS WITH 'PEP'

Rover Group chief presents awards

"THE electricity industry's 'PEP' Awards underline the need for British industry to strive constantly for greater efficiency and productivity," declared Graham Day, Chairman of the Rover Group, presenting this year's MANWEB area awards at a ceremony at a Runcorn hotel in September.

Mr. Day, a prominent industrialist of Canadian extraction, welcomed the chance to return to the North West—an area for which he has a soft spot, following a period in charge of Cammell Laird of Birkenhead.

British industry was under increasingly competitive pressure, not just from Europe but on a global scale, he said.

"We have been through a dodgy patch, but there are signs that we turned the corner some time ago. Provided that we continue to hustle, although life won't be easy, there is a solid way forward. As I travel abroad, I find that Britain is becoming more and more respected—and even envied."

MANWEB and industry in general had a common interest, and the 'PEP' Awards were an expression of that, added Mr. Day. Some might think it odd that the electricity industry should organise a competition which might lead to reduced energy use but, fortunately, the electricity industry recognised the need for its customers to be around, still as customers, in the future.

"The winners' success in the 'PEP' competition is the success of us all," he declared.

Mr. Day, along with guests representing all the firms taking part in this year's competition, was welcomed by Commercial Director Peter Hopkins, who carried off the job of master of ceremonies with his usual polish.

oil prices, had put pressure on MANWEB to market electricity with even greater skill and imagination.

Industrial customers, both large and small, had benefited from new tariffs and technological advance, and electricity prices in the UK were now comparable with those prevailing in most other European countries.

The Chairman went on to refer to the need to refurbish the distribution network and spoke of what he called "the microprocessor revolution applied to system protection and design", inviting his audience to visit the MANWEB Engineering Exhibition which

was on display outside the hotel.

After touching on various aspects of our commercial activities, Mr. Weston turned to privatisation, expressing the hope that the shape of the industry's future would be more clear by the end of this year.

"Whatever the future may hold and whatever the final structure of the industry, there can be no doubt that our continuing duty will be to provide all our customers, particularly our industrial customers, with an electricity service which is highly efficient and as

● Continued on page 2

Manweb AMBASSADOR CLUB

ALL MANWEB employees will be invited to join the MANWEB Ambassador Club, to be launched on 19th October. By signing up you stand to win a good prize, and it enables you to win more prizes by earning points. You can donate your points to charity. All you have to do is... well, let Anneka Rice tell you—she has made a video for the launch, and the pictures of the making of that video are shown on the centre pages.

Anneka Rice



Debbie launches 'Total Heating'

MEMBERS of the national and local press were introduced to the home heating system of the future by the delightful Debbie Greenwood, from BBC Television.

Total Heating, the electricity industry's flexible, versatile, packaged heating system, was given a press launch in London recently. A press party of journalists from the MANWEB area were taken to the capital to see the launch.

A Liverpool lass herself, Debbie was pleased to meet the MANWEB party, especially as a member of her old paper was there—Dave Williams from *Merseyside*, the well-established free newspaper—who had messages of greeting from former colleagues.

* Press Launch of *Total Heating*—page 2

Debbie Greenwood chats with Dave Williams of *Merseyside* and Terry Dunne of Head Office Energy Marketing



THE MANWEB

● FROM PAGE ONE

economical as possible," he added.

Peter Hopkins then called forward the representatives of the winning companies to receive their awards and certificates, and concluded by commenting: "In most competitions, there is only one entrant who can win. In the 'PEP' competition, all the entrants are winners. This year, the total capital investment in the 19 projects entered was £4.3-million. The annual savings are £1.85-million, and the average pay-back period is 2.3 years.

"All the companies who entered, whether they received an award or not, have already won in the real world of the market-place."

1987 'PEP' AWARDS

—the winners and those highly commended

A DEESIDE company which manufactures resin coatings for the linings of cans used in the food and drinks industries and a major Widnes chemicals firm were the winners in their respective categories of this year's 'PEP' (Power for Efficiency and Productivity) Awards in the MANWEB area.

Winner in the category for firms with up to 100 employees was Dexter Midlands Coatings, of Deeside, and in that for firms with more than 100 staff was Laporte Industries Ltd., of Widnes. Each received a trophy in the form of the Greek letter "Eta"—the adopted symbol for efficiency—together with a cheque for £1,000 and a commemorative plaque to be displayed in the factory.

In each category the achievements of two entrants were judged as "Highly Commended".

In the category for smaller companies, the firms recognised in this way were Pwllheli Brick and Block Ltd., of Pwllheli, Gwynedd, manu-

facturers of concrete products; and Mersey Can and Drum Ltd., of Birkenhead.

The two larger firms whose entries were highly commended were Vactite Ltd., of Bootle, Merseyside, makers of a new product known as "wire-wrap wire", and the Aluminium Corporation Ltd., of Dolgarrog, Gwynedd.

For the first time this year, agricultural users of electricity were eligible to enter the 'PEP' competition, and a "Highly Commended" recognition was awarded to Mr. K. W. Rimmer's Merryfall Farm, at Whitley, Cheshire, for using electricity in grain-drying.

Judges for the MANWEB area competition were Robin Gardner, Regional Energy Efficiency Officer; Donald Doo, Manager of Trawsfynydd Power Station; Tom Booth, Chairman of Refuge Assurance, representing the CBI; and David Sturgeon, Merseyside Area Manager of the Midland Bank. The panel was chaired by Bryan Ogen, MANWEB's Energy Marketing Manager.

THE WINNERS

Dexter Midlands Coatings opted for an electric induction kettle, instead of the traditional gas-fired system which has inherent temperature control problems, for production of the water-based resin used in their speciality food and beverage can linings. The company made substantial savings, with the additional benefits of using a pollution-free fuel needing minimal maintenance. This firm is part of the world-wide Dexter Corporation, and the lessons learned at the Deeside plant are being adopted in other parts of the world.

Laporte Industries Ltd. invested £377,000 in the installation of an electric coreless induction furnace at their inorganics plant at Widnes, replacing an oil-fired furnace, for the production of ferrous sulphide. In addition to saving an estimated £57,000 a year in energy costs, this switch has led to improved working conditions for staff, a better end-product, and a reduction in environmental pollution.

Both winners of the MANWEB competition now go forward to the national final, to compete against the winners in other Area Boards.

HIGHLY COMMENDED

Pwllheli Brick and Block Ltd. installed an electrode boiler to produce steam heating for drying their concrete blocks, replacing an oil-fired system. A modest investment of £9,500 has led to savings of £2,200 a year, due to the more efficient performance of the drying kilns, a better quality product, increased production and an end to weekend working.

Mersey Can and Drums Ltd. invested £75,000 in electronic welding machines, making it possible for them to enter the market for large-capacity drums and cutting their "side-seaming" costs by half. Savings are estimated at £18,000 a year; production is greatly increased; and the new cleaner environment is popular with the work-force.

Vactite Ltd. makes a "wire-wrap wire" used in the connections of printed circuit boards, and product quality is crucial. Environmental contamination was resulting in an unacceptable "reject" rate dropping from 50 per cent to a mere five per cent.

The Aluminium Corporation Ltd. invested a total of £83,000 in an electric induction furnace to replace an oil-fired furnace for melting down scrap and swarf metal which has been recovered from machining operations. This was previously an unpleasant task for the work-force and involved substantial metal losses, but the advantages of the electric furnace are leading to savings estimated at more than £100,000 a year—and a much happier work-force.

At **Merryfall Farm**, the addition of an electric dry-air generator to the existing bank of electric heaters used to dry the farm's annual crop of 400 tons of wheat and barley led to dramatic improvements. Now, regardless of weather conditions, grain can be dried for 24 hours a day if necessary, taking advantage of cheap night-rate electricity, and there have been big improvements in grain quality. The investment of £8,500 has been rewarded with savings of up to £6 per tonne of grain, and it is estimated that the new generator will pay for itself in just over three years.



Definitely worth a second look—Debbie Greenwood, with Gledhill hot-water tanks marketing lady Christine Young and MANWEB Commercial Director Peter Hopkins

Total Heating

—national press launch

TOTAL Heating with electricity was hailed as the system of the 1980s and '90s—a superior alternative to traditional central heating.

The Electricity Council's Central Director for Marketing, Mr. Jack Taylor, speaking at a special press preview at the Royal Garden Hotel, London, said: "Total Heating is a system that offers everything you have ever wanted from home heating. It gives warmth when it is needed, plenty of hot water, low running costs, ease of installation and little or no maintenance."

Mr. Taylor explained that because Total Heating was flexible, it was the ideal system for virtually any home. "If central heating was the system of the '60s and '70s, Total Heating, with electricity, is the system of the '80s and '90s," he said.

Under the Total Heating system, the majority of heat required in the home is provided by modern, slim-line storage heaters. These are co-ordinated

with a range of direct-acting heaters, which provide flexible temperature control, room by room, whenever it is needed. Hot water is an integral part of the concept and is provided by an Economy 7 water-heating system which meets the Electricity Council's exacting specifications.

Every Total Heating system is designed specifically to give

the comfort and flexibility required by individual customers. It will suit their particular needs, their personal way of life and their own home. Every Total Heating system is designed to get around 90 per cent of its energy requirements from electricity at the night-rate of the Economy 7 tariff. This costs less than half-price compared to the standard domestic tariff, and makes the system economical to run.

Research carried out by the supply industry showed that the most popular requirements for an ideal heating system were whole-house heating; heat when it was needed; a system that was controllable; a system that was economical to run, with plenty of hot water; and a system that was cheap and easy to install and was trouble-free. Total Heating has been launched to meet all these requirements.

Long Service Awards

CONGRATULATIONS to the following members of MANWEB staff who, during the month of September, have completed 40, 30 or 20 years' service in the electricity supply industry.

40 YEARS—North Wirral District: **Edward James** (mains foreman), Mid-Cheshire District: **Ronald Penistone** (HGV driver).

30 YEARS—North Mersey District: **Harry Hogarth** (general duties assistant) and **William Morton** (salesman). Liverpool District: **George Johnston** (general duties assistant), **Anthony Murphy** and **Harold Pratt** (meter operatives), **Edward Quinn** (foreman—Engineering) and **David Wilson** (craftsman electrician). Mid-Mersey District: **Jack Jones** (craftsman electrician). Dee Valley District: **Llion Humphreys** (craftsman electrician). Mid-Cheshire District: **Bob Cowgill** (craftsman electrician) and **Robin Sharvin** (2nd engineer—Energy Marketing). Clwyd District: **William Adams** (craftsman, overhead lines), **John Evans** (draughtsman) and **David Jones** (craftsman electrician). Gwynedd District: **Gwynfor Roberts** (2nd engineer—Installation). Head Office: **Ken Appleton** (Utilisation Manager), **Peter Hartley** (senior engineer—Systems Transmission), **John Kinsella** (administrative assistant—Management Services), **Reg Morris** (3rd engineer—Projects Drawing Office) and **Paul Wilkinson** (senior engineer—System Management).

20 YEARS—Liverpool District: **Francis Duff** (craftsman electrician) and **David Lowe** (clerical assistant). Mid-Mersey District: **David Booth** (1st engineer—Systems), **Mike Craven** (craftsman, overhead lines) and **Dennis Eckersley** (craftsman electrician). Dee Valley District: **Graham Croft** (craftsman electrician) and **Paul Forrest** (3rd engineer—Installation and Service). North Wirral District: **Alan Reid** (1st engineer—Systems) and **Stanley Youds** (craftsman—Electrical Fitting). Mid-Cheshire District: **Dave Williams** (2nd engineer—Production). Clwyd District: **Derek Robinson** (2nd engineer—Systems) and **Charles Williams** (craftsman electrician). Gwynedd District: **Alun Roberts** (craftsman electrician) and **Terence Varney** (craftsman—Electrical Fitting). Oswestry District: **Martin Benson** (2nd engineer—Systems) and **Alan Jones** (craftsman electrician). Aberystwyth District: **Geoff Thomson** (2nd engineer—Installation and Service). Head Office: **John Brown** (1st engineer—System Management), **Celia Hughes** (clerk—Financial), **Robert James** (1st engineer—Energy Marketing), **John Peel** (principal assistant—Management Services) and **Alan Simpson** (senior executive officer—Computers).

7 GOES INTO THE 7,000th

THE electric seal of approval was given to the 7,000th house built by national builders Lovells, in partnership with local authorities.

The house, which was on the Castlefields Estate in Tattenhall, Cheshire, was the home of newly-weds John and Nicky Duerden, and has been built on Chester City Council-owned land. All the homes on the estate are built to Medallion Award standards, and Dee Valley District Energy Marketing Engineer Keith Hibbert was on hand to

present the award to Councillor Richard Short, Chester's Housing Committee Chairman.

The joint venture by the builders and the Council enables the houses to be sold at around £10,000 below the price that could be expected for comparable dwellings.

This has meant that the cost of the cheapest home on the



In front of the 7,000th home built by Lovells in partnership with local authorities, Dee Valley Energy Marketing Engineer Keith Hibbert presented Councillor Short with the Medallion Award. Keith is to the right of the microphone, holding the certificate, and the Councillor is on the left

estate is £19,775. Lovell Chairman Norman Wakefield, speaking at a ceremony to hand over the key of the 7,000th home, commented: "This is living proof that pooling resources can be for the common good."

A CIVIC FOR DEE VALLEY

It's that man Keith Hibbert from Dee Valley again, this time giving away a Civic Shield Award to the Alyn and Deeside Council to mark the completion of senior citizens' bungalows at Abermorddu, Hope—between Wrexham and Chester. *Left to right* are Councillor Jim Jones, Housing Committee Chairman; Keith Hibbert; Councillor Eirys Williams, the local Councillor, with two of the new residents; and the Chairman of the Council, Councillor Trevor Davies



Medallions galore in Aberystwyth District

Our picture shows four of the five recent Medallion Awards to builders of homes within the MANWEB Aberystwyth District—quite an achievement for Allen Carr and his Energy Marketing team. Pictured are, *from left to right*: Eric and Henry Thomas, of Thomas Brothers, Penrhyncoch; District Manager David Price; Allen Carr; Peter Roberts, of C. H. Chainey Associates, Aberystwyth; and Glyndwyr Jenkins, of Ystwyth Homes, Llanfarian



Sitting down to breakfast are Glyn Norbury, *extreme left*, and industrialists

Breakfast meeting with Industry

WITH the 'PEP' Awards at a Runcorn hotel, the Engineering Exhibition was available for those attending the awards to see the high tech approach to engineering in MANWEB.

Two days later, Mid-Mersey District Manager Glyn Norbury invited local industrialists to a breakfast meeting to view the exhibition. He, members of his Commercial staff and Engineer-

ing Director Dennis Farquhar entertained 22 industrialists to breakfast—one even travelled from Nottingham to arrive for the 8.00 a.m. start. After the meal, they were given a conducted tour of the exhibition.

Glyn Norbury pointed out:

"These are busy men and, once they get to work, it is difficult to get them out during the day, say, for lunch. But they are prepared to come along first thing before work, and I am delighted with the response and the interest shown in the exhibition."

Tony Swift, from Mid-Mersey Energy Marketing, *left*, escorts two industrialists around the Engineering Exhibition





Manweb AMBASSADOR CLUB

A VIDEO has been made to launch the MANWEB Ambassador Club on 19th October. A host of MANWEB staff took part, with three actors from Wrexham's *Little Theatre* and the delightful Anneka Rice, of Channel 4's *Treasure Hunt* programme.

The video was made on location in two days, filming around Chester and Queensferry, by Multivision Ltd., and produced and directed by Daniel Hoffman. Senior Economics Officer Graham Haslett is the co-ordinator for the launch of the club and the making of the video. His house in Chester was used for some of the scenes. It was chosen because of its quietness and amenable neighbours. Just as filming outside was about to start, a motor-mower burst into life, followed by a rotavator and a helicopter, which flew overhead. Producer Daniel Hoffman soon silenced them.

All MANWEB staff will have an opportunity to see the film *Points To Treasure*. Our pictures show a behind-the-scenes look at the making of the video.

◀ Anneka arrives by helicopter—how else? With her are Graham Haslett and pilot Ian Durston



Commercial's Alison Eakins in her close-up scene, watched by *Little Theatre* actress Glenys Morgan



Meter reader Geraint Bellis from Oswestry District, with "housewife" Ade Garratt, of *The Little Theatre*

**Manweb
AMBASSADOR
CLUB**

**LAUNCH DATE
19th Oct 1987**

DON'T MISS YOUR
CHANCE TO WIN THE

100,000

POINTS

JACKPOT

Alan Harris takes a call from the Chairman on his radio, while his colleagues have a tea-break

The treasure—a veritable Aladdin's Cave—discovered by the "A-Team" and Anneka Rice. *Left to right* are: Robert Morris, Keith Mason, Alan Harris and Alun Jones, with Anneka



The making of the video 'Points To Treasure'



The "A-Team", with Aneka, about to take off for Head Office to find the treasure

In the Chester Squash Club, producer Daniel Hoffman gives directions to Gren Roberts and Dewi Jones for their scene



Playing the part of delivery men, Mike Pearson, *right*, from Queensferry, and Rob Edwards, of Dee Valley

Chairman Bryan Weston, with Aneka, the "A-Team" and Board Members, prepares for a "take" in the Board Room



National Eisteddfod at Criccieth

FOR eight days, a tented town sprang up and seethed with life at Bro Madog—the area around Porthmadog and Tremadog and just outside Criccieth. A massive pavilion was the centre of attention, in which the major events for the Welsh National Eisteddfod were presented to a live audience and on video-tape for an even larger television audience.

The site was a field. The pavilion had to be constructed and services laid on for the hundreds of thousands of visitors—a mammoth task. The electricity supply was arranged by Gwynedd District and a sub-station was built on site to supply the needs of the tented town of stalls and marquees.

A team from the District, comprising Commercial and Engineering staff, were on hand to ensure that the supply was maintained and to meet the demands of several television stations.

To see the work carried out by the District and to enjoy the Eisteddfod, MANWEB Chair-

man Bryan Weston and South Wales Electricity Chairman Wynford Evans, together with members of the MANWEB Board, visited the site.

The English-speaking visitor would find this happy festival a little strange, surrounded by thousands of people speaking only Welsh, celebrating their

language and culture. One of the television companies with a stand on the site—HTV—did show sympathy to the non-Welsh speakers by providing free of charge a radio device which gave an instant translation of the events in the pavilion. This did help to capture the flavour and humour of the occasion.

Good music and singing need no translation, and there was plenty of that for the music "buff", from folk through to classical or traditional. There were solo artists and choirs and orchestral concerts. Not everything went on in the pavilion, and many smaller gatherings were everywhere with their own specialist interest.

One of the highlights of the Eisteddfod is the "Crowning of the Bard". The competing entrants are set a subject on which

they prepare a poem—in Welsh, of course. *Dreams* was this year's topic.

The ceremony was conducted by Archdruid Emrys Deudraeth, clad in white and gold robes and attended by Druids in white, blue and green robes, who marched through the auditorium to the stage, apparently somewhat self-consciously. They were preceded by dancing children.

Each piece of poetry was submitted in a Bardic name, so that no one knew the real name of the winner. The winning poem was announced by the Archdruid, and the Bard was asked to stand. Spotlights searched the audience, as did the television cameras. Slowly, a smiling round-faced man rose from his seat, to a roar of approval from the audience. A robing party placed the robes on him in the



Chairmen Bryan Weston and Wynford Evans examine the official eisteddfod programme

aisle, and he then proceeded to the platform, where he was crowned.

To the outsider, the ceremony might appear a little bewildering but, thanks to the translation in the ear, the sense of fun, some of the self-mocking and enjoy-

ment of the occasion were translated too.

In addition to arranging the electricity supply, the Gwynedd District supported the event by providing ramps for the disabled and took a full-page advertisement in the official programme.

Board Member David Boulton and his wife, left, with District Manager Dick Owen and his wife



Left to right: Jeff Scott (Energy Marketing Engineer), John Griffiths (Board Member), Dilys Leighton Jones (Marketing Representative) and John Hooson (Board Member)



Foremen John Owen (Engineering) and Gwillam Jones (Commercial)





Lunch with the Chairman

Two members of MANWEB staff who featured in the Queen's Birthday Honours were entertained to lunch by MANWEB Chairman Bryan Weston. Joan Dittrich, MBE, is a 1st engineer in the Head Office Commercial Department, responsible for catering equipment development. Bobby Adamson, BEM, is a foreman in the Revenue section of Liverpool District. Our picture shows Joan and Bobby, with the Chairman between them.



CHARITY CHEQUES

Contributions from the salary of North Wirral District staff are presented annually to local charities. Two charities benefited this year, with a cheque each for £264. Pictured are representatives of the givers and the receivers. *Left to right:* Mike Townson, principal assistant—Administration; Des Lock, District Manager; John Jones and Elsie Robinson, from St. Winifred's Home for the Handicapped; Colin Hough, LJCC Chairman; Marilyn Graham and Margaret Vogwell, of the Wirral Toy Library for the Handicapped; and Dave Gilmore, Steve Holmes and Bob Wales, of the District Charity Committee

NEW YTS INTAKE

A warm welcome to the latest group of YTS trainees who have embarked on a two-year course with MANWEB. Five wish to pursue a retailing career and seven more look to the office



The retail group are, *left to right:* Noel Shevlin, Craig Mullen, Ian Fitzsimmons, Heather Davenport and Colin Young



Clerical and administration trainees are, *left to right:* Pamela Frost, Denise Lindsay, Jeff Fairclough, John Symonds, Tracy Williams, Kerry Smith and Anne-Marie Gardner

A ROCKING HORSE GIFT

When Aberystwyth Energy Marketing section won a food hamper in a marketing competition, they decided to raffle it and give the money to charity. In effect, they raised £250, and bought a rocking-horse for their local hospital. Trying out the horse is visitor Amy Evans, surrounded by patients and nurses from the children's ward of Bronglais Hospital, Aberystwyth. The District staff—Rene Morris, Allen Carr and Tomos Davies—are in the centre, behind the rocking-horse.



Wedding

It was at St. Giles's Parish Church in Wrexham that Julie Barnes and Roy Powell tied the matrimonial knot. Julie, who is 20, is employed in the Dee Valley District as a clerk in Consumer Accounts. After the wedding ceremony, they entertained over 80 guests at their wedding breakfast and reception, in the Fibreglass Recreation Club. Our thanks go to Ray Rowland for capturing on film the radiant bride and happy groom on their wedding-day.



ASSEMBLY MAN

Pictured above, *left to right:* John Boyer (MANWEB), Andrew Hatley (South Western Electricity) and Sir Robert Telford, a member of the Engineering Council, who, during the summer, attended the Engineering Assembly at Heriot-Watt University, Edinburgh

CHESTER GATEWAY THEATRE

'The Tempest'

TWO-FOR-ONE OFFER

SHAKESPEARE'S *The Tempest* is an A Level subject for many students in the MANWEB area next year, and the play will be staged at Chester's Gateway Theatre from 5th to 28th November.

As a contribution to the arts and education in our area, MANWEB will be providing a modest level of sponsorship for this production, and, as a mark of appreciation, the theatre is making a two-tickets-for-the-price-of-one offer to our staff and pensioners.

This offer will be honoured on production of this voucher at the box office, but you are advised to check on the availability of seats in advance (Tel: Chester 40392/3).

Details of performance times are as follows: Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday at 7.45 p.m.; Friday and Saturday at 8 p.m. There will be one matinée, at 2.30 p.m. on Saturday, 21st November.

Admission prices are as follows: First Night and Matinée—£3; Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday—£3 and £4.25; Friday and Saturday—£4 and £5.50.

Manweb

TWO-FOR-ONE OFFER

This voucher entitles MANWEB staff, present or retired, to two seats for the price of one for the MANWEB-sponsored production of *The Tempest*, from 5th to 28th November, 1987. This offer is subject to the availability of seats and the box office should be contacted to confirm that these are available

GATEWAY THEATRE



Walking for charity

You might think that this is a shot from *The Department of Silly Walkers*, but they are, in fact, good sports from North Mersey District, in fancy dress, ready for a seven-mile charity walk. They toured 18 pubs in the area, so one or two may

be excused for an unsteady finish at the District's sports and social club. The object of the exercise—which was the seventh annual event—was to raise cash for the NSPCC, and it is hoped that £1,000 will be the final figure.



Snooker contest winners

Here we show the winners and runners-up in two Head Office snooker and pool competitions. Above, centre right: Sports club secretary Gren Roberts presents the captain of *Kiddies*, Kevin Gee, with the Evening League Trophy, watched by winners and runners-up, *Split The Pack*. Below: These are lunch-time knock-out contest winners for snooker and pool singles, doubles and—in pool—mixed doubles. Pictured with their prizes are winners and runners-up. Left to right: Alan Parry, Martin Lewis, Brian Carman, Nerys Gibbons, Kath Jones, Kathy Horrocks, Mike Edwards, Richard Bromley, Len Phillips, Steve Dunning, Ray Morgan, Nigel Rowlands and club secretary and organiser Pat Byrne.



SNOWDON MOUNTAIN RACE WIN

THE annual Snowdon Race took part this summer, with MANWEB involvement in the sponsorship. Gwynedd District gave the MANWEB Cup for the first under-12 competitor home in the race. The main race, with an international team, is run from Llanberis to the top of Snowdon and back down again—a ten-mile run. Juniors take a short route, and this year the MANWEB prize was won by local boy, ten-year-old Jason Baylis, from Llanberis.

Here we see our Gwynedd District Manager presenting the MANWEB prize to Jason Baylis.



Darts Finalist



A NATIONAL darts competition was nearly won by MANWEB's Bill Rogers. He won his way through several rounds and into the final—but lost. He picked up a couple of trophies, two teddy-bears, a set of darts, and a cheque for £100. The tournament was in aid of the EEIBA Benevolent Fund, and was sponsored by GTE Sylvania Ltd. and the *Electrical Contracting News*.

Bill Rogers

Captain's Day

IT was the "Day of Two Peters" at the Oswestry Golf Club on the MANWEB Golf Society's Captain's Day.

The major contest of the day went to Mold Depot's Peter Lawler, who scored 40 points, to win the captain's prize, beating a field of 63 golfers.

The captain of the club is Peter Falcon, Financial Manager, from Head Office. He won the greensome prize, with his partner from Commercial—Malcolm Cooper, last year's captain.

The runner-up in the captain's prize was retired member Dennis Ellams, with Dee Valley's Norman Clarke and Malcolm Cooper being third and fourth respectively.

A grateful captain thanked Howell Jones and Brian Sheppard, the secretary and treasurer of the club, and also last year's captain, Malcolm Cooper, for their efforts and assistance during his year.

LIVERPOOL FUN RUN

Liverpool District were the sponsors for the Liverpool Fun Run. Our picture shows the variety of finishers streaming under the *Energy For Life* slogan.



Cricketers win League

SUCCESS has come to the MANWEB Head Office—they have won the Chester and District Mid-Week League, Division 3.

Despite three games falling to the summer weather and being rained off, they succeeded in winning their other ten games and had the league title, with one game to play.

The MANWEB team were founder members of the league 20 years ago, which then numbered eight teams. There are now 72 teams and nine Divisions.

The winning team, standing, left to right: Amlyn ab Iorwerth, Ian Rooney, Russell Clayton, Peter Walsh, Paul Williams and Mike Boxall. Front row: Shane Yates, John Gorman, Dave Spencer and Ian Jones.



'SURECARE'

—improved scheme

MANWEB customers will get a better deal with the new Surecare offer—the maintenance scheme for electrical appliances. A new improved scheme was launched recently to give customers five years' cover for their appliances.

The old scheme offered a two-year cover after the end of the year-long guarantee period. Now that two-year period has been extended to four years, making a year under guarantee plus four more under Surecare.

Regional Sales Controller Bill Wakelin was delighted with the success of the new scheme. He

commented: "The enthusiasm for selling the Surecare agreements by shop staff has seen dramatic increases in the acceptance level in MANWEB. Now, with the introduction of the additional one-plus-four-year premium, we are expecting even greater results."

"Surecare is a benefit for the customer, in offering peace of mind for up to five years on appliances. It contributes to the MANWEB income and guarantees a future workload for appliance service staff."

A new leaflet and point-of-sale material is in the shops to support the campaign.

ELECTRICITY SUPPLY INDUSTRY PENSION SCHEME

Notice to Female Members

FEMALE contributing members of the pension scheme, who have not previously exercised the option to make provision for a widower's pension are asked to note that they may now do so at any time. Any members who are interested in this option should contact the Head Office Pensions Section or their District General Services Section.

This option does not apply to those ladies who were born after 31st March 1958 or who joined the industry after 31st March 1978, as they are already covered for a widower's pension.

ENGINEERING FUND RAISER

Engineers Benevolent Fund. Donations from guests, a disco, the bar and a raffle helped to swell the fund to a magnificent £750.

Credit for the success of the occasion must go to the hosts and also to the committee of Bob Hodson (Dee Valley), Peter Hartley (Transmission), Peter Bennett (Shell UK), Vaughan Roberts (Head Office), John Walker (Capenhurst), Mike Jones (Liverpool) and Geoff Ravenscroft (Mid-Mersey). It was they who erected the marquees, manned the gate and cooked the traditional food.

OVER 160 guests braved some atrocious weather in order to attend a barbecue at the home of Engineering Director Dennis Farquhar and his wife, Anne. The elements were kept at bay, thanks to several marquees in the beautifully-kept gardens. The event was to raise money for the Institute of Electrical



Diamond Wedding

Joseph and Elsie Roberts were married 60 years ago. To mark their Diamond Wedding, Dee Valley District Manager Bob Hodson took them out to lunch, and presented them with a kettle. Joe was a driver with MANWEB until he retired over 20 years ago.



Day Tripper

Members of the Head Office Retired Association wave goodbye, as they leave on one of their organised trips. They meet at 2 p.m. at Head Office on the last Wednesday in every month, and would welcome new members

RETIREMENTS



Roy Fallows, right, with his wife Chris, and Dr. Jim McLennan

Mr. R. FALLOWS CROWDING into the canteen at Bridle Road, the members of North Mersey District staff were supplemented by managers, former managers, trade union officials and colleagues from other Districts. The reason for the gathering was to say farewell to Roy Fallows, an installation inspector and chief shop steward in the District.

Roy has retired after 34 years' service with MANWEB, and was presented with a colour television set on behalf of his friends and colleagues.

He joined the former North Liverpool District in 1952 as an electrician, and became an installation inspector in 1963. But it was for his work representing his colleagues on numerous committees and as shop steward of the EEPTU that he became widely known and respected.

He gained a reputation as a tenacious supporter of his colleagues in negotiations, but was a man of reason, who understood the electricity supply industry and the need to serve the customer.

Away from the office, he continues to serve the community as a Justice of the Peace. He is a lifelong member of the Scouting Movement and, in recognition of his service to the industry and to society, he was awarded the British Empire Medal in 1986.

Even in retirement he will be active in a link with MANWEB, as the secretary of the newly-formed North Mersey Retired Association. District Manager Dr. Jim McLennan, thanked Roy for his service to MANWEB, and wished him a long and happy retirement.



Albert Cooper

NORTH MERSEY DISTRICT STAFF ASSOCIATION

THE last Wednesday in every month is the day when the new North Mersey District Retired Staff Association meets at the District's Sports and Social Club, in Bridle Road, adjacent to the District Office.

The Association is looking for new members and would welcome any retired members of the District or any retired MANWEB personnel who are living in the District, or their wives, husbands, widows or widowers.

It is intended to start arranging social activities, such as day trips, sporting events, bowls, darts, pool, whist drives, etc.

The honorary secretary is himself one of the latest to join the ranks of the retired (his retirement is reported in this issue)—Roy Fallows. He hopes that some new faces will be at the next meeting on 28th October, at 2.30 p.m. The annual membership fee is £1.00.

Any queries? Then ring Roy Fallows on 051-922 2507.

MID-CHESHIRE LJCC MEETING

RETIRED members of Mid-Cheshire District staff are invited to attend the Mid-Cheshire District Employees' Open Meeting. Any who wish to do so, please contact Pat O'Neill, principal assistant—Administration, at Macon Way, Crewe

The meeting will be held on

**Thursday, 12th November, 1987
at Hunters Lodge Hotel, Crewe**

Mr. A. COOPER

MID-MERSEY District staff said farewell to their District Engineering Manager Albert Cooper, who had completed 47 years' service in the electricity supply industry.

Highly-respected as an engineer and extremely well-liked as a man, Albert joined the industry in 1940 as a junior engineer at Stalybridge, moving to St. Helens and then Warrington, before nationalisation in 1948.

He moved from Warrington Power Station to MANWEB as a section engineer and, a year

later, became 1st assistant District Engineer at Warrington.

He was appointed District Engineer at North Wirral, then held a similar post in Warrington before moving to the old Area 2/3 as a senior engineer. His final move was back to Warrington as District Engineer of the enlarged South Lancs District—now known as Mid-Mersey—later becoming Engineering Manager.

We join with his many friends and colleagues in wishing Albert and his wife, Joyce, a long and happy retirement.

Obituary

IT is with deep regret that we record the deaths of the following former colleagues. We extend our sincere sympathy to their family and friends.

Mr. R. M. Broadfoot, aged 93; was a section engineer in the former Area 4, and retired over 28 years ago.

Mr. R. I. Jowett, aged 62. Bob was the Assistant Chief Commercial Officer, Load Development, until he retired two years ago.

Mr. J. R. Rawes, aged 69. Reg was the Commercial Supply Engineer in North Mersey District, until his retirement in 1982. We regret this rather belated entry, as Reg died in March this year.



Les Daulby is in the centre of the picture, surrounded by his Liverpool colleagues

Mr. L. DAULBY

POPULAR member of Liverpool District Meter Reading Department, Les Daulby has taken early retirement due to ill-health.

Les joined MANWEB in 1966 and, to mark his retirement, colleagues presented him with a set of a dozen cut-glass whisky glasses.



Commercial Director Peter Hopkins, right, presents the MANWEB Senior Men's Trophy to winner Ashley Moore

SKATE-ELECTRIC

A HIGH standard of skating was seen in all sections of the Skate Electric Welsh Open at Deeside Leisure Centre recently, as more than 100 skaters gathered to contest the most important competition ever staged in Wales.

Local boy Steven Cousins (15), son of Liverpool District Installation Engineer David, retained the Mollie Phillips Trophy for a second year, with an outstanding performance. He convincingly won both the short and long programmes, including scoring an unprecedented 5.8 for artistic impression. Already the British Junior Champion, he is aiming for selection for the World Junior Championships in Brisbane, Australia, from 8th to 12th December.

The winner of the MANWEB Senior Ladies' Trophy was British Junior Champion Fiona Ritchie (15), of Dundee, who dominated all three sections, finishing well clear of Louisa Danskin (17) from Oxford.

Great Yarmouth's Ashley Moore (23) pulled himself up from the brink of disaster, to win the MANWEB Senior Men's Trophy. A rather poor short programme left him behind, but Ashley—the former British Artistic Roller Skating Champion—put on a superb exhibition of free-skating, to win the long programme and the title, ahead of Merrick Kerr (20), of Kyle, and Christian Newberry (19), of Solihull/Lee Valley.

The Skate Electric Welsh Open, promoted by the Welsh Ice Skating Association, has been sponsored for the second time by the Electricity Council, under the Skate Electric banner. The Open is also supported by MANWEB.

CONTACT FREE ADS

FOR SALE

AMP-BOOSTER — Sansui SM150 car stereo, two- or four-channel up to 150 w. As new, £125 o.n.o. Tel: 0286 5322 evenings (T. H. Varney).

AWNING—To fit caravan 12/14 ft. Used twice. £100. Tel: Dolgarrog 049269 755 (T. A. Everley).

CASSETTE PLAYER — Portable, stereo. Unwanted gift. Brand-new, never used. £30 o.n.o. Tel: Int 2202 or Buckley 547796 (Mandy Harrison—Computers).

CHILDREN'S BRITANNICA—Unused, in original packing, latest edn. Half-price. Genuine reason for sale. £100 o.n.o. Tel: Mold 4103 or Int 2469 (Barry Judd).

CLAIROL CARESETTER — Heated rollers. 20 rollers of three sizes. Perfect condition. Used only two or three times. Tel: H.O. Int 2139 (Jane).

COMPUTER PRINTER — SV 160 Olivetti. Suitable for listings, etc. Parallel interface; lead to fit BBC Micro. £30. Also Replay ROM for BBC Micro, to suit Opus 3.45DFS. £16. Tel: North Mersey Int 2118 (G. P. Ryan).

DINGHY — 12 ft. Skipper, Snipe trailer, 4 h.p. outboard mtr. As new, garage-stored, many extras. £550 o.n.o. Tel: 051-722 5514 (M. McEvoy).

DINGHY — 505, with road trailer, trapeze, harness, S.S. rigging. Needs some work on front decking (a few square feet of marine plywood). £325 o.n.o. Tel H.O. Int 2665 (J. R. Edwards).

KEYBOARDS — Casio SK1 Sampler, £60 o.n.o. Yamaha MK-100, £150 o.n.o. Casio CZ-230S Synthesiser, £200 o.n.o. All boxed, complete with mains adaptors. Tel: 051-639 1550 or N. Wirral Int 2292 (Paul "Fingers" Baron).

STABILISER — Bumper to Bumper Caravan Stabiliser, complete with all fittings, £20. Tel: Mid-Chesh Int 230 (Alan Laird).

MISCELLANEOUS

KIDDIES' PARTY? — Let the Silly Billies entertain while you relax. Tel: 051-924 5708 (Lorraine).

WANTED

TOW-BAR & HARD-TOP — To fit Triumph Spitfire. Tel: North Wirral Int 2370 (Martin—Drawing Office).

HOUSE FOR SALE

WAUNFAWR — Near Caernarfon. Semi-det.; lounge with stone bar; dining room with stone fireplace, large kitchen, three beds, bathroom with shower. Rewired and replumbed. Solid fuel c.h. Gardens. Fine views Snowdonia. £25,000. Tel: Caernarfon 2134 or Gwynedd District switchboard (Jean Letman).

CAR FOR SALE

CORTINA 2.0GL — 1979, one owner. Metallic gold. New tyres, well maintained in good cond. Ten months M.O.T. £850 o.n.o. Tel: Prestatyn 07456 4756 (W. Jones).

VAUXHALL — Astra 1.3L, C Reg (March '86), three-door. Dark green, stereo rad. cass. One lady owner, immaculate. £4,650. Tel: 051-645 8741 (Mrs. J. McFarlane).

TOW-BAR—To fit Escort Mk III/XR3. Dixon-Bate type. £15. Tel: Mid-Cheshire Int 230 (Alan Laird).

ANIMAL BOARDING

KATERAMA Boarding Home for Cats. Vet. apprvd. Halton Borough Council licence. A. Barrington, Halesgate Farm, Halesgate Road, Halebank, Widnes, Cheshire. Tel. 051-425 3930.

BOARDING KENNELS—And Cattery. Ewloe. First-class accommodation, full central htg., individual runs, twice-daily exercise. Tel: Hawarden 532742.

CANAL CRUISES

On *Golborne*—the electric boat. Available for charter by MANWEB employees at a discount of 7½ per cent of hire charges and food prices. Folk music and barbecue trips a speciality. Discount on scheduled public trips. For full details, telephone Northwich 48354 or 44672.

HOLIDAYS

ABERYSTWYTH — Six-berth caravans to let from £35 a week (less 10 per cent discount for electricity supply staff and their families). Mains electricity, cooker, 'fridge and private toilet. Site facilities include a clubhouse, swimming pool, sauna, shop/restaurant and children's play area. Within easy walking

distance from beach and town centre. Tel 0970 3596 after 5.00 p.m. (Tomos Davies).

CARAVAN—Towyn, Nr. Rhyl. Six-berth, two bedrooms, shower, fridge, fully fitted. From £75 per week. Tel: 0978-362615/352653 (Mrs. Jones).

CARMEL—Caernarfon. 19th Century stone cottage in own grounds. Excellent views. Three bedrooms, bathroom, lounge and parlour. Large kitchen with cooker, fridge and freezer. Tel: 0286-886 749. Alwyn Pritchard, 16 Maes Hyfryd, Carmel, Caernarfon, Gwynedd.

FIGURE IT OUT CONTEST

OUR competition in August edition of 'CONTACT' seemed to stump many of you. Maths does not seem to be a good subject, but we did have three winners who worked out the formula to -492.5. They will receive a cheque for £5 each. The first two correct answers out of the hat were from retired staff, Mrs. M. E. Cowle and Tom Challinor; the third was from Mrs. C. J. Scott, of Mid-Mersey Debt Control Section

Name:

Send to: 'CONTACT' FREE ADS, MANWEB, SEALAND ROAD, CHESTER CH1 4LR.

CONTACT
EXCLUSIVE OFFER!

FOR MANWEB PRESENT AND RETIRED STAFF

ELECTRIC UNDERBLANKETS

Textile Seconds

Single 48 x 25 ins. £7.50

Double 48 x 44 ins. £9.50

A SPECIAL purchase for MANWEB staff, present or retired, or their spouses, of textile imperfect blankets. The electrical part of the blanket is perfect and has full BEAB approval and 12 months' guarantee. It is the fabric which has slight imperfections, which in no way impairs the efficiency or reliability of the blanket.

They are manufactured by Northern Blankets Ltd., the makers of Electra Blankets sold through MANWEB and other electricity board shops. It is a single-heat model and you can choose any colour as long as it is pink!

LIMITED OFFER—WHILE STOCKS LAST

This offer can only be completed through MANWEB shops. Take the coupon below into the shop of your choice and the shop supervisor will arrange for blanket(s) to be available from that shop within 14 days. Payment should be made on collection.

N.B.—Staff notes will NOT be required for either blanket.

TO: Supervisor MANWEB shop

Please supply single blankets at £7.50 (cc 40090)
 single blankets at £7.50 (cc 40104)

Name

Workplace (or former)

Tel. No. (home or work)

THE SPORTING CHANCES

by Mitch

