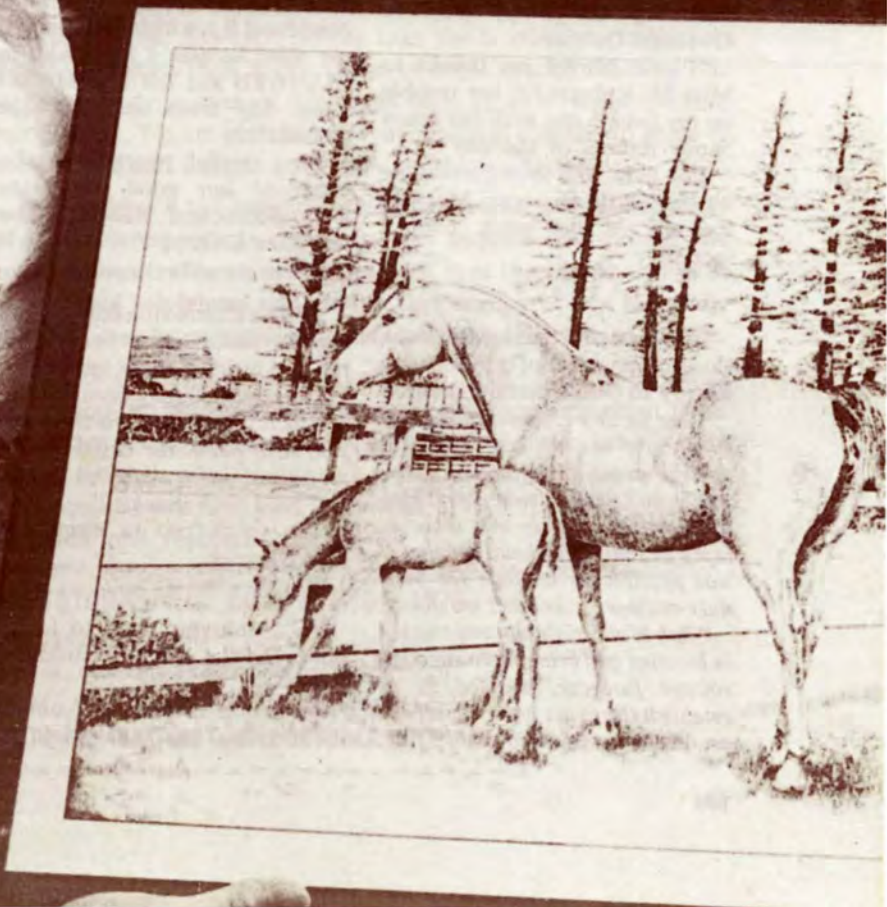


Contact

September 1979

She's Good
(see page 169)



We Get Letters — from Customers who Care

Another bouquet for North Mersey, this time from *Under-standing British Industry*, an offshoot of the C.B.I.—

"Thank you for your recent help in arranging a visit of teachers from the Liverpool Education Authority to your company in order to increase their appreciation of industry and commerce. I know that your senior officers spent a significant time on the visit, and having spoken to one young lady who attended it was obvious that she had learned a great deal from her day with you."

* * *

Thanks for a new cooker from a Valley (Anglesey) lady to Gwynedd District—

"Please convey my thanks to Miss M. Roberts for her trouble on my behalf and wish her many happy returns of the day . . ."

The lady who took the trouble on her birthday was **Morfudd Roberts**, of the work control section.

* * *

And grateful thanks from the electrical engineer of a Moberley factory to Mid-Cheshire District—

"The factory experienced loss of supply on one of our 500 kVA transformers. . . on contacting MANWEB at Crewe it was refreshing to find that not only was there a reply at that early hour but that it was possible to arrange for your duty engineer to contact me direct.

"Bob Wainwright's prompt action in locating and bringing to site high voltage fusegear, enabled us to establish the exact point of failure, an 11kV transformer cable box.

"I was even more surprised, in this day of unavailability of services throughout weekend periods, when a number of MANWEB vans, complete with cable jointers, appeared in our factory yard—obviously conjured up by Bob! The rogue box was broken down and refilled during the afternoon and the transformer which normally supplies a vital part of our production was available for service in the early evening. Please extend my company's gratitude to Bob Wainwright and his team for their excellent response to our plight and for a job well done."

* * *

From the owner of a guest house at Roby, near Liverpool, Liverpool District, after a re-wire—

"The men have worked with care so that my old property would not be defaced, and I am very appreciative. I had decided not to have your estimate because I considered it too high, but changed my mind because I have faith in MANWEB and felt I could trust them. My trust has not been abused!"

The careful workmen who enhanced our good reputation were electricians **Robert Hilton** and **Alan Kerr**.

* * *

From a Caernarfon lady, thanking Gwynedd District for supplying and fitting a water heater—

"The order has now been completed to my entire satisfaction, and I wish to thank the engineer who performed the work for his civility and good workmanship."

The thanks go to electrician **Garry Davies**.

* * *

A "thank-you" card to Liverpool District from a Childwall family—

"Our son (who is last out in the morning) accidentally left the

front door ajar . . . when your meter reader called it was wide open.

"He alerted my next door neighbour who came round, checked that there was no-one in, and closed the door. In this day and age it is reassuring to know that standards of honesty and integrity still prevail, together with a sense of public duty."

The bouquet goes to meter reader **Leslie Dalby**.

* * *

From the proprietor of a Welshpool fish-and-chip shop expressing thanks to **Jean Hall**, **Jean Davies** and **Pat Rowley** of Oswestry District customer accounts for helping sort out some problems—

"It was appreciated indeed in this day and age to be dealt with not only promptly but efficiently . . . if you are ever in our vicinity please call in the shop—we may be able to thank you personally and treat you to some take-away fish-and-chips maybe!"

No need to ever go hungry ladies

* * *

Finally, from another Liverpool customer in a letter to **Bill France** (*Installation Engineer*).

"May I take the opportunity to thank your crew who re-wired my house and out-buildings.

"One hears of nothing but complaints, but your crew were magnificent. To name but four of your lads (including your good-self)—**Rob Hilton**, **Brian Bamford**, **Gary Wilson** and **Barry Madden**, and the extra lads last week. They got on with the job without making too much mess, and always consulted us as to where we would like switches and sockets installed. My wife, daughter and self were very pleased indeed, especially as we were up against a very tight schedule.

"I cannot put into words our gratitude, so I will just say, 'THANK YOU LADS'—we are proud of you."

Contact

THE STAFF MAGAZINE
OF THE
MERSEYSIDE AND
NORTH WALES
ELECTRICITY BOARD

Vol. 31 No. 9

September 1979

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Information Office, 4S1,
Head Office, Sealand Road,
Chester CH1 4LR

SILENT SATISFACTION

THE average buyer of goods or services expects to receive satisfaction. If he pays up without complaint then it is fair to assume that he has not been disappointed. The overwhelming majority of our customers settle their accounts without comment. It is their way of acknowledging a good job well done.

Most of the people who **do** take the trouble to get in touch with us have a complaint, or at least a problem. Those of us who deal with them need to remind ourselves that they represent only a tiny fraction of the total. Failure to do so might well lead to a jaundiced impression of customer satisfaction and of the service we provide to the public.

Occasionally, however, people take the trouble to put pen to paper to express their appreciation of some special effort on our part—or perhaps even of what may seem to us a run-of-the-mill job of work. We are pleased to devote space in *Contact* to some of these letters and include a selection on the facing page.

It is perhaps a sad commentary on modern society that so many of these correspondents should express surprise that careful and conscientious craftsmen are not extinct, that the simple virtues of honesty and helpfulness still survive, that employees of a big public industry can be sympathetic and understanding human beings.

Despite the sniping of the “knockers” and the devious antics of the dodgers we can take heart from the knowledge that these people are a very small minority. Independent surveys show quite clearly that the silent millions have complete confidence in the Electricity Boards, and that the writers of the “thank-you” letters are their real representatives.

'CONTACT' PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION 1979

For all employees, pensioners and their families
Details of prizes, sections and copies of Rules from:
The Editor, 'Contact,' MANWEB Head Office, Chester CH1 4LR
CLOSING DATE FOR ENTRIES—31st OCTOBER 1979



*Examples
of artistic ability
especially drawn
by Karen Good*

(see story opposite)



Talking Notes

PETS IMMORTALISED

NOT content with owning three lovely horses, *Karly*, *Radi* and *Kesh*, and an alsatian dog called *Ziggi*, a bright young lady with a terrific talent, **Karen Good**, has immortalised each of them through her beautiful pen and ink drawings.

Karen, a 23-year-old tracer working at our Head Office in Chester, exercises a great deal of patience along with her obvious artistic ability when, with her pen and brush, she manages to bring animals and flowers to 'life' in her pictures.

Friends and neighbours take photographs of their pets for Karen to capture their likeness on paper. Her genuine fondness for pet animals is clearly shown by her painstaking portrayals in her drawings which are much more lifelike than the photographs.

Leaving school to study art at Kelsterton College in 1973, Karen became a tracer for the Board two years later. She satisfied her creative artistic outlets by taking up her own particular style of drawing as a hobby. Now she spends much of her spare time turning out her masterpieces from her home at Shotton. Away from her drawings, she enjoys riding her horses.

Last month, Karen was privileged to exhibit a couple of dozen of her drawings, plus a handful of oil paintings, at the

Flint public library. These have attracted a great deal of praise from the public and the local press and she has been asked to stage another exhibition at the Holywell public library near Christmas time.

On the page opposite we reproduce some of Karen's work.

Sybil's Award

A well-earned long service certificate to mark 20 years' membership of the Electricity Supply Ambulance Centre has been awarded to **Sybil Cooper** a principal assistant in our Revenue section at Head Office.

For 19 of these 20 years, she has captained the MANWEB Head Office first-aid team, and has led them to numerous

victories in competitions all over the country.

A few years ago, Sybil with an all-ladies team, reached the pinnacle of competition — the Grand Prior. They were narrowly beaten into second place in this contest open to all the best in the Nation's first-aid teams.

In making a presentation of the certificate and an accompanying brooch, **John Scudamore** (*Secretary*) thanked Sybil for her devotion to first-aid, for her able captaincy of a most successful team and for the many hours given to the instruction of others.

Hot Foot!

Sebastian Coe may be the official world record holder at 800 metres, but the real champion (by quite a margin) is fitter's mate **Frank Parkinson** from Northwich depot in Mid-Cheshire District. At least,

Board Secretary, John Scudamore presents Sybil Cooper with her certificate to mark her 20 years' membership of the Electricity Supply Ambulance Centre.



OUR COVER PICTURE shows artist Karen Good at Flint public library where she held an exhibition of her work.

(Picture: Chester Chronicle)

that's what his mates swear to be the truth.

It all began when Frank was one of the MANWEB team engaged in laying on an electricity supply to the run-down Old Hall at Tatton Park, which is in course of restoration by owners Cheshire County Council. The line for the new cable lies across the gracious parkland, in the middle of which Frank was busily driving in an earth spike. Unfortunately the spike scored a bull's-eye on a nest of particularly resentful wasps, which not unreasonably held him to blame for the disturbance.

Pursued by the vengeful horde Frank headed for the tall timber at a considerable rate of knots, but not before he had collected half a dozen stings on his head and neck... painful, unpleasant, and duly recorded in the depot injury report!

Computer Stars

A team of four members of the Head Office Computer Section have become the North West Computer Stars champions, improving on their positions last year when they took third place.

Duncan Smith (*Sponsor's representative*), left, presents the award to **Computer Stars**, from left to right, **Mike Edwards**, **Emyr Jones** and **Paul Davies**. Unfortunately team captain **Joe Norris** wasn't available when the presentation was made.



The quartet, **Joe Norris**, (*captain*), **Mike Edwards**, **Emyr Jones** and **Paul Davies** beat 25 other teams to win the title. They competed in ten events including the 800 metre steeplechase, 200 metre sprint, throwing the discus and putting the shot. Points were awarded for each competitor and the total gave the winning team.

Together with the two runners-up, the MANWEB champions will compete in the National Final in London this month.

New Film

As pioneers in the field of computer graphics for power system engineering, it followed that MANWEB and UMIST (*University of Manchester Institute of Science and Technology*) should join forces, once again, when it came to making an instructional recruiting film explaining the work.

Our own expert **Dr. Charles Lynch** (*1st engineer-Computer Applications*), got together with **Dr. Saki Efthymiadis** (*Tutor for Postgraduate Studies, UMIST*) to put together a script. They were assisted from time to time by **Dr. Alfred Brameller** (*Reader in*

TRANSFER OF PENSION RIGHTS

Are you a former member of H.M. Armed Forces and now work for the electricity industry?

Did you leave the Armed Forces after 1st April 1975?

Did you complete at least one year of reckonable service in the Armed Forces?

Did you receive an immediate pension and terminal grant on leaving the Forces?

If your answers are 'Yes' to the first three questions and 'No' to the last one, then you may be entitled to a transfer value payment from the Armed Forces Pension Scheme.

Please don't delay in getting in touch with the Superannuation staff at Head Office, telephone 2721, 2722, 2723 or 2726.. before the end of November this year at the very latest.

Electrical Engineering, UMIST) and **John F. Perry** (*principal assistant, Information*) who also helped organise the financial side of the project and arrange locations for the filming.

The very experienced **Ken Wrench** (*Audio-Visual Service, University of Manchester/UMIST*) is the able director of the film with freelance cameraman **Brian Spencer** at the business end of the lens. The voices throughout the film are supplied by **Charles Lynch** and by **Brian Trueman** the popular broadcaster and TV presenter. Among the 'actors' appearing in the film are a number of engineers from Head Office.

The whole project was completed in time for a quick pre-

view of the film by MANWEB senior officers before Dr. Efthymiadis took it to a conference in Warsaw and then on to Thessalonika.

Shortly afterwards, Charles took another copy of the film with him when he made an independent visit to the United States of America. He showed the film on two occasions while he talked to American power engineers.

Through the efforts of all concerned, the eighteen minute 16 mm colour film, which sets out to and succeeds in explaining a very new and powerful system, has been produced on a very low budget.

Copies of the film are now available and priority audiences include 16 and 17-year-olds, still at school. Our Education and Training team will be encouraging these young people to aim for a University place to read for an electrical engineering degree coupled with applied computer knowledge. Their future could then be in electricity supply, a forward-looking industry, that can offer a challenging career.

Fishermen off Amlwch

Twelve hardy fishermen from our Llangefni Sports & Social Club, with hope in the hearts and bait on their hooks, took part in a competition a short time ago.

Fishing from a trawler off Amlwch Port, a warm sun and a calm sea made it a perfect day for the sport. All arrangements went according to a well-prepared plan, but unfortunately the fish had got to know about the competition.

This did not deter **Now (Rhosybol) Pritchard (electrician)**, who eventually won the trophy by landing Jaws III—which turned out to be an extremely large dogfish. (A picture was not taken because



Four of our first-aiders at Head Office who recently qualified for certificates. They are, from left to right, Patricia Kelly, Linda Tomkow, Edna Jones and Alan Laird.

the cameraman did not have a wide angle lens!!)

The prize was presented to the winner by Club Chairman **Bob Gibson (Wayleave officer)**.

Canada Bound

There was a rousing send-off for a member of the Sealand Road Cash Office Staff, **Helen Dodgson** who left the Board for a new life in Canada. She is emigrating to one of the most beautiful parts of that great Country, British Columbia.

Helen is emigrating with her father, who has just retired from British Steel at Shotton. They will join Helen's sister Pamela Bowen, who settled in the town of Fernie after emigrating 14 years ago. She also worked for MANWEB at the former Area 4 Office.

More First-Aiders.

Head Office staff now qualified as first-aiders has reached the 40 mark thanks to four of our ladies and two gents who

recently passed their final examinations.

These latest recruits to be awarded the Electricity Supply Industry Ambulance Centre certificates are: **Edna Jones (typist)**, **Patricia Kelly (clerk, Revenue)**, **Linda Tomkow (secretary)**, **Margaret Stockman (clerk, Revenue)**, **Colin Herbert (2nd engineer-System Operation)** and **Alan Laird (student engineer, E & T.)**.

Only four of these successful first-aiders were able to be present at the recent No. 11 LAC meeting where **John Scudamore (Secretary)** presented the certificates.

Only 40 qualified first-aid staff at Head Office is not really enough. More are needed. If you wish to learn basic first-aid you can enrol in one of the courses run by the Board. It doesn't take up much time and it's worth it in the end.

Just pick up your 'phone and call **Nurse Dorothy Davis** on 2145 or 2039.

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EDUCATION AND TRAINING

New Centre at Sealand Road

IN recent years, many additional training courses have been introduced by the Board to further educate and instruct new and established members of our staff. These have put quite a strain on the limited facilities which have been available at Head Office and Wallasey.

Then, as a result of some recent organisational changes in our Accounts section at Head Office, accommodation became available in the original office block on the Sealand Road site. A scheme was quickly approved to convert some spare office space at the South end of the third floor into a purpose-designed training centre. Work was completed a few months ago and all our training activities are now centred there.

The accommodation comprises of a lecture room complete with platform, visual and audio aids and the special desk-chairs recovered from the Wallasey sales training school. There is also a syndicate room

and a sales demonstration area, simulating, quite successfully, a corner of one of our shops. Another small room serves as the very necessary storeroom, film library and office.

Responsibility for the day-to-day administration of the centre lies with Mr. Eric Richardson who, over a number of years, expertly trained many members of our sales staff on courses at Wallasey.

Over the next twelve months, a full programme of courses has been planned for staging at the new centre. These include training and instruction in supervisory techniques, industrial relations, sales and interviewing. It is already apparent that the upsurge in demand for more training courses will necessitate running courses in parallel and the Head Office conference rooms will still be utilised.

So, as far as the Board's education and training programme is concerned, it certainly looks as though the quest for even more accommodation is not yet over!

OUR E. and T. TEAM

Education and Training Officer	Denis Kernan
Executive Officer	Dick Storer
Principal Assistant	Eric Richardson
Admin. Assistants:	
(Students)	Oscar Lloyd
(Sales)	Val Eastwood
(Apprentices)	Lesley Smith

FOREMEN ON COURSE

From left to right:
Joe Waring (North Wirral), **Jim Foster** (Mid-Cheshire), **Jack Colley** (Aberystwyth), **Jack Calvert** (Liverpool), **Arthur Priest** (District Industrial Relations Officer), **Alun Rowlands** (Gwynedd), **Ian Ledson** (North Mersey) and **Tony Manfredi** (Clwyd).



From left to right: **Jim Giblin** (Liverpool), **Len Keough** (North Mersey), **'Yorry' Morris** (Dee Valley), **Jack Pownall** (North Mersey), **Eric Ellis** (Dee Valley), **Eddie Worrall** (Mid-Cheshire), **Eric Richardson** (Education and Training section) and **Eric Roberts** (Clwyd).



NJB INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS COURSE

Standing at the back, from left to right: Dave C. Williams (*Vice-President, E.P.E.A.*), Dianne Harris (*secretary*) and Harry Brocklesby (*Area Secretary, E.P.E.A.*). Staff on course, seated from left to right: Dick Owen (*District Engineer, Oswestry*), Ivor Nottingham (*2nd engineer-System, Gwynedd*), Dewi Parry (*District Engineer, Aberystwyth*), Arthur Bunton (*3rd engineer, Commercial Supply, Gwynedd*), Peter Hughes (*2nd engineer, System, Dee Valley*), Brian Atherton (*2nd engineer, Production, Mid-Mersey*), Bill Clarey (*2nd engineer, System, Mid-Mersey*), Bert Eyres (*District Engineer, North Mersey*), Tony Swift (*2nd engineer, Industrial, Mid-Mersey*) and Dave Makin (*3rd engineer, Commercial Supply, North Mersey*).

OUR SALES STAFF IN TRAINING



Val Eastwood, and three of our salesmen, from left to right: Nick Kovacs (*Dolgellau*), Tim Brown (*Mold*) and David Langley (*Birkenhead*) look on as Eric Richardson makes a video-film of a sales technique.



Sales staff being filmed as they simulate the process of making a sale. They are, from left to right: Josie Egerton (*Runcorn*), Margaret Shrigley (*Warrington*) and Gareth Griffiths (*Oswestry*). The monitor set on the left, shows the scene being video-taped.

Staff on Sales Course Number 284 pictured during a lecture session. They are, from left to right: Gareth Griffiths (*Oswestry*), Tim Brown (*Mold*), Josie Egerton (*Runcorn*), Margaret Shrigley (*Warrington*), David Langley (*Birkenhead*) and Nick Kovacs (*Dolgellau*).



FREEDOM FLOREAT



Believe it or not but the 'guy' in our picture, *right*, in a light stetson and totin' a six-shooter is our own, our very own **Henry Blackwell**, Commercial foreman in Oswestry District. The picture however was 'rigged' to mark the occasion of Henry's return from a visit to the good old U.S. of A. With his wife, Dot and their youngest daughter Angela and grandson Mark, they went to visit Henry's eldest daughter Pat, who married a Shropshire lad and settled in the States. True to form, Henry breaks into poetic verse to describe his eventful trip.

Each year I have found, when summer comes round, my body slows up and gets weak,
Then my head starts to ache, so it's time for a break, my battery to charge so to speak.
But my boss won't believe I am dying for leave (although he has taken all his)
He says "Down on your knees, lick my shoes and say please!" (*Well, if I don't he gets in a tizz*)

I think it's everyone's call, to get away from it all, so out I went to the 'States',
With money I'd saved, I finally waved, a hurried farewell to my mates.
Our take-off was fast, we were airbourne at last, our "Jumbo" it climbed like a hawk,
Leaning back in my seat, at 36,000 feet, sweeping down at Kennedy New York.

It's skyscraper heights, with millions of lights, that statue looking far out to sea,
Dame Liberty gazed, with an arm that was raised, reminding old "H" he was free.
Then to Brooklyn and Staten, avoiding Manhattan, south west into old Pennsylvania,
With it's green fields and trees, honeysuckle and bees, for that smell I get quite a mania.

Then I thought I would see, their Washington D.C., maybe Jim Carter as well,
So on Route 95, I started to drive, just wondering what he'd have to tell.
That highway was busy, I got kinda dizzy, some "truckers" they gave me a blast,
But at the end of the day, I can honestly say, the time had gone all too fast.

I'd learned of Washington (*George*), his troupes at old Valley Forge, where 3,000 fell sick and then died,
They were starving and cold, with hardships untold, but they each took it all in their stride,
For independence they sought, for freedom they fought, but not wanting to create a fuss,
Without reason or rhyme, George III at the time, was truly a wicked old cuss.

Then Philadelphia next day, a visit I'd pay, to look 'round this wonderful place,
It's Carpenter's Hall, that State House so tall, dwarfed me with it's elegant grace.
I could hear ghostly cheers, over two hundred years, back on that fourth of July
The Declaration was signed, with shrewd and clear mind, for freedom that won't ever die.

Then past Brandywine Creek, I thought I would seek, the first of all States Delaware,
I took route 322 and drank in the view, in this world I hadn't a care,
Suddenly Phoenixville South, I just gaped at the mouth, my eyes opened wide at the sight,
Because there on a sign, by an overhead line, I read "CHESTER" (*next on the right*).

On that highway I stopped, my eyes nearly popped, in my chest I felt my heart thud,
Then a voice real droll, came from Highway Patrol, "*Is there somethin' buggin' ya Bud?*"
When I turned 'round to look' he'd reached for his book, his gun hung down by his side,
He said "*I saw you just pass, are ya queing for "gas"?*" "No, it's that sign", I replied.

(continued on page 176)



Like a precious stone in a beautiful setting—Plas Penhelig.

Plas Penhelig Project

The best of both worlds

A small hotel, with guest consideration of all that is best in modern luxury living combined with the restful atmosphere and old-style charm of a country house, was the dream realised for Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Richardson and their son David when they recently completed the conversion of Plas Penhelig at Aberdovey into such an earthly paradise.

Men from MANWEB helped in the project too when, against tight competition from private enterprise, they quoted for, and won, an interesting contract worth more than £16,000.

Our energy salesman from Aberystwyth, Mr. Alan Dickinson, made the initial contact with Mr. Richardson and planned the complete rewiring of the premises from the spacious cellars up to the second floor suite of beautiful bedrooms. A comprehensive

alarm and emergency lighting system has also been installed.

In the compact and spotlessly-clean kitchens, many items of labour saving electric catering equipment have been supplied and a 250 cubic feet coldroom established.

Mr. David Richardson has high praise for MANWEB. "I was truly pleased with the Board's keen quotation and am now delighted with the expert manner in which your staff have carried out the work. Your after-sales service too is much appreciated," he commented.

The hotel Plas Penhelig has arisen from a fine old house built in 1909. It stands in its own beautiful and spacious grounds facing South on the hills overlooking the splendid Dovey estuary.

Typical of the neat blend between the old and the new is the large oak-panelled entrance hall, open log fireplace, grand stained-glass window looking down on a craftsman-built sturdy oak staircase leading up to the bedrooms with plush wall-to-wall carpeting, neat furniture, comfortable beds and all tastefully decorated and having adjoining luxury bathrooms.

Large lawns bordered by a profusion of flowering shrubs, trees and terraces surround the house and provide ideal vantage points for the many wonderful views.

A unique feature of Plas Penhelig is its own

railway station at the end of the drive. This station was established long ago when arrangements were made between the original owners of the Plas and the former Cambrian Coast Line, for all trains to stop at the station by request. This right still exists today!

It is a rare occurrence that such a delightful property of character in such a beautiful setting becomes available to the public as an hotel. It is also very fortunate that the Richardson family have the comfort and enjoyment of their guests at heart and, as far as our staff at Aberystwyth is concerned, it has been a great pleasure to have been associated with this most worthwhile venture.

Plas Penhelg pictures by Bill Griffiths, Head Office

The chef and his assistant in their compact and spotlessly-clean kitchen.



Pictured at the imposing entrance to the hotel Plas Penhelg we see, from left to right: Brian Fletcher (electrician), Alan Dickinson (2nd engineer-Energy Sales) and David Richardson, owner of Plas Penhelg.

FREEDOM FLOREAT (continued)

"I'm here on vacation, quite a way from my station, here to just mosey 'round, Thought I'd have a ball and get away from it all, but hell just look what I've found." The Patrolman said, "*Son, I aint chargin' ya none, you can just hit the Highway, I aint aimin' to pester, if you're headin' for CHESTER, I hope you have a nice day*".

So onwards I went, with my ear duly bent, wondering just what I would find, I'm not one to shirk, but at least with my work, I hoped I had left it behind, But Head Office I thought, was not what I sought, that sign was beginning to goad, So there I was stuck, not daring to look, scared I might find Sealand Road.



This sign stopped Henry in his tracks! Was Head Office really round the corner?



Mr. George Bowers, centre right, presents a 'Good Luck' retirement card to top tradesman, Mr. Roy Ellis, watched by just a few of his many friends in North Wirral District.

RETIREMENTS

Mr. R. ELLIS

"A fine gentleman"; "One of the best electricians in the country"; "A really nice fellow"; "I wish for more men like him" and "A good son"—these were just a few of the many warm and sincere tributes voiced by present and past colleagues—from apprentices to pensioners—which were paid to Mr. Roy Ellis when he retired from his job in our North Wirral District after nearly 20 years' service with MANWEB.

Roy began his working life as an apprentice electrician with a Wallasey firm—a prelude to his many years of work in contracting. During the last war he was drafted as an electrician on shipping, first on the Mersey and later on the Tyne. He returned to private industry prior to joining the Board in 1960.

Many colleagues gathered to say their farewells and drink a toast to his retirement, with the true

wish that it will be a long, healthy and very happy one for this good friend and craftsman.

Mr. George Bowers (*District Commercial Engineer*) thanked Roy for his much appreciated service before presenting him with parting gifts from friends throughout the District of a fishing rod, a radio and a set of binoculars.

Mr. D. C. JONES

After taking a temporary job with the Board at Oswestry District hand-delivering electricity account Mr. D. C. Jones was subsequently appointed as a meter reader, a job he held until his recent retirement.

"D.C." will be missed by our customers for his cheerful attitude and colleagues at Maesbury Road too will miss him for his conscientious and industrious approach to his work.

At a farewell ceremony, Mr. Tegwyn Williams (*District Administrative Officer*) presented "D.C." with a cheque from friends in the District and he voiced their wishes for a long and happy retirement in which "D.C." could pursue his hobbies of walking and following the Sport of Kings.

The popular Mr. 'D.C.' Jones, centre right, surrounded by friends from Oswestry District, receives their farewell gift from Mr. Tegwyn Williams.





At our Mold depot, colleagues gather round as Mr. Glynne Hughes, *centre right*, wishes a long and happy retirement for Mr. Bill Hughes.

Mr. W. A. HUGHES

One of three brothers working in our Clwyd District, Mr. Bill A. Hughes has now retired from his job as a labourer at our Mold depot. Brothers Ishmail (*driver*) and Trevor (*linesman*) still have some time to go before they join him.

On the morning of his day of retirement, Bill, a very popular character, was presented with a 29-year service certificate and a book of his choice by Mr. Glyn Dodd, (*Group Manager*). Bill was then entertained to lunch with members of the Local Advisory Committee at District Office before returning to Mold for his retirement presentation ceremony.

Here Bill received a watch with the inscription 'To Bill from his colleagues' and this was presented, on their behalf, by Mr. Glynne Hughes (*1st engineer-Production*).

Mr. J. P. PRITCHARD

A very popular electrician working in our North Mersey District, Mr. Joseph Pennington Pritchard, retired recently.

A parting handshake from Mr. Dennis Noad (*District Commercial Engineer*), *centre left*, to Mr. Joseph Pritchard on the occasion of his retirement.



He joined MANWEB at the Southport depot and during his 19 years' service, he has been presented with many safe driving awards and has served on Local Advisory and Works Committees for a number of years. Some time ago he attended a Spring and Summer School at Cambridge and the eloquence of his report of that occasion was a joy to read.

Joe is an accomplished saxophonist and is a keen golfer. His only child, Sue, worked for us at North Mersey District prior to her marriage. She is now expecting her first baby so no doubt Grandad Joe will be kept very busy in retirement.

Colleagues at Bridle Road subscribed to present him with a gift of his choice. He left his job with everyone's wish for his good health and prosperity and a very happy future with his wife and family.

Mr. L. C. JONES

Starting and ending his 42 years' working life in Caernarfon, Mr. L. Charles Jones has now retired from his job as principal assistant in charge of accounting in our Gwynedd District.

Charlie began his long career in our industry with

the former North Wales Power Company and, after his first twelve months at Caernarfon, he went across to Llangefni. When he transferred to MANWEB on nationalisation in 1948, he stayed on at Llangefni until 1971 when he went back to Caernarfon.



All the Jones'. Miss Wyn Jones presents Mr. Charles Jones with his 'Gold Disc' watched by Mr. Keith Jones.

During the war years he served with the Royal Army Medical Corps and did his initial training in Northern Ireland, which somehow included a spell of potato picking on a farm!

Now in retirement, he has taken up the game of golf. "I should have done it years ago," he said.

RETIRED GROUPS

Members of the Head Office Retired Staff Association have enjoyed a couple of outings since their trip to Erddig Hall. Since then, they have been guests of British Aerospace at their factory near Chester where they were entertained to afternoon tea after seeing aircraft in production.

Shortly afterwards, a party travelled to Trawsfynydd power station and, after an excellent lunch, the intricacies of nuclear power generation was explained to them—the safety factor being given special emphasis.

The new Association is now firmly established and members are looking forward to future activities, especially the Christmas Dinner/Dance on Wednesday, 12th December at Head Office.

* * *

For their most recent outing, the Mid-Mersey Pensioners Group took a short run to Lytham St. Annes to see "Ernie" at work. They heard a very interesting talk and watched a film, while they enjoyed the hospitality of tea and biscuits. (We hope their visit may prompt "Ernie" to pull out one or two of their numbers!)

In the evening, the party drove along the coast to Blackpool where they saw the Tommy Steele show.

The next outing is planned for Edinburgh where they will see the Military Tattoo.

When Mrs. Jones can get Charlie away from the 'greens' no doubt she will be able to persuade him to join her on visits to their three daughters who live as far apart as Crewe, Canada and Germany.

At his retirement presentation ceremony, to commemorate his prolific output of memos, chief typist Miss Wyn Jones presented Charlie with a 'Gold Disc' for dictating a million memos. This was included among other parting gifts from his friends and colleagues, presented on their behalf by Mr. Keith Jones (*District Administrative Officer*) who wished Charlie and his wife, many happy years of healthy retirement.

PICTURE FROM THE PAST

Some time ago we published an account of Mr. Cyril Harrison's 'retirement job' as a librarian with a firm of consulting engineers in Reading.

This prompted another of our pensioners, Mr. Jack Griffiths to send us an old and treasured photograph, which we reproduce below, taken at the Northwich depot 55 years ago!

The snappy dressers are, from left to right: Cyril Harrison, Tommy Davies and Jack Griffiths. At this time they were all working for the former Mid-Cheshire Electricity Company but, after the industry was nationalised in 1948, Cyril moved to the Eastern Electricity Board and took his 'first' retirement in 1956.

Tommy too, left the Mid-Cheshire Company but returned to work for MANWEB in 1951 and was a foreman in the technical workshops when he retired in 1967.

Jack, who was born on Christmas Day 1900, began his working life as an apprentice electrician and he stayed in our industry until his retirement in 1965.



New Look at Chester Football Club

*'Seals' and MANWEB
work together*

Chester Football Club—a third division side with a first class outlook—have a reputation for taking care of its staff and its supporters.

A few months ago, they launched a £500,000 scheme to provide a new 2,700-seater stand—ready for the start of this new season—a social clubroom, restaurant, administrative offices, players' lounge and changing rooms, facilities for visiting teams and officials, a gymnasium and baths.

MANWEB have a £30,000 interest in this development with our Dee Valley District staff installing air-conditioning in the social clubroom and providing catering facilities for a kitchen serving up to 400 meals at any one time. We have also installed water heating systems for the huge baths and space

heating throughout the complex.

Our contact with the Club began when, towards the end of last season, we re-sited a substation to make way for the new stand. As power supply to the floodlights would be affected, our staff did the job during a two-week period when the Club did not have a home game.

Impressed with MANWEB's co-operation and very pleased with the quality and speed of our work, we were asked to design and quote for the rest of the electrical work and we were successful in gaining the contract.

Chester Football Club may not be spending millions on 'star' players but they do adopt a most generous attitude towards the comfort of their team and supporters—a development that reflects the recent splendid record of the Club.

It's hardly surprising that MANWEB should take a pride in the success of Chester F.C. After all our Head Office is only across the road! So, this season we'll have more than usual reason for saying "Good Luck, Seals!"—from one team of professionals to another.

Another MANWEB/CHESTER F.C. tie-up is through our Dee Valley District energy sales demonstrator Maureen Edwards who's husband Ian is the Club's star striker.

Holiday Discounts for MANWEB employees

Starting this winter, Grand Metropolitan Hotels are offering a 10% discount to all MANWEB staff and pensioners on Stardust Mini Holidays to London, Brussels, Amsterdam and Paris; and on their Camelot Country Mini Holidays.

Stardust Mini Holidays to London consist of two nights accommodation in one of 24 central London hotels, full English breakfast, service and VAT. For example, a couple of days at the London Penta or London International would cost £33.93 (instead of £37.70) this winter, travelling from the Merseyside area.

If you fancy a trip to the Continent, there are Stardust Mini

Holidays to Amsterdam or Brussels, and from November this year, Paris too.

Prices include rail travel, return ferry and two nights accommodation with continental breakfast, service charge and government taxes included.

Alternatively, consider a couple of days in the country, travelling around when and how you like. Camelot Country Mini Holidays offer a choice of 29 hotels from Edinburgh in the north to Exeter in the south west.

Or, you could take a Stardust Country Mini Holiday which includes rail fare but not the meal voucher.

To find out more send off the coupon below.

■ "CONTACT" "8"

■ Please send me brochures and details of the special offer for
■ Stardust and Camelot Mini holidays.

■ NAME

■ ADDRESS

■ TEL..... Please return this form to: ■

■ John Buckingham, (Dept. MG), Camelot and Stardust Mini
■ Holidays, PO Box 863, Paddington, London W2 2DU. ■
