



## Foxy polar bears are simply mint

THIS PAIR of curious polar bears are among the stars of this year's festive production at the Chester Gateway Theatre, which will be supported by Manweb.

The Snow Queen, an adaptation by Stuart Paterson of the Hans Christian Andersen tale, tells the story of a young boy who is snatched away by the Snow Queen as his friend Gerda battles to save him.

On their adventure they come across weird and wonderful characters including – as well as the bears – talking ravens, a vicious spider and a reindeer.

Manweb's sponsorship has made it possible to provide extra bench seating at the front of the auditorium, and also to supply fun packs for teachers who make group bookings.

The company's backing also means more than 400 children from local charity groups will see the performance for free.

## Flame to travel around Wales

A TORCH representing the "Flame of Volunteering" will be carried by people over the age of 50 on a round trip of Wales this autumn when older volunteers are celebrated by the United Nations' Year of Volunteering.

During the event, which is sponsored by Manweb ScottishPower and is being arranged by Age Alliance Wales, the volunteers will invite a local authority representative in each county to sign a proclamation stating that they actively support and encourage volunteering in their area.

# Cricket team scoops double

**A** MANWEB cricket team celebrated its tenth year of playing in a local league by winning "the double" by the narrowest of margins.

In the last match of the season in the Wrexham Midweek Companies League, the Manweb Dee Valley cricket team clinched the league title for the first time ever.

Then in the Cup Final at Bersham, they beat Kimberley Clark by one run when the opposition's last man was thrillingly run out. More than 25 players contributed to the best season ever for Dee Valley, which ended with them losing only one match.

Captain John Clarke, of Customer Sales and Service (CSS), got the best out his squad by using a rotation system.

Top wicket taker for the team – and for the league



The double-winning Manweb cricket team who are celebrating their 10th anniversary.

as a whole – was pace bowler Steve Mullock, brother of Neil who is senior buyer at Prenton.

Stars of the final were both from CSS, Philip Pugh, with 30 not out, and Matthew Williams who in only his second game scored a hard-hitting 24.

Now Dee Valley are laying down the gauntlet

to the rest of the Manweb region, Scotland and Southern Water by challenging all comers in next year's season.

Wicket keeper, Alun Jones, Corporate Communications, said: "It has been a historic season for us. There has been a great team spirit and all the players have put in sterling performances."



## Manweb team at Crucial Crew event

■ Pictured at the week-long Crucial Crew safety week at Dane Bank College of Further Education in Crewe are (left to right) Eamonn Finnegan, Jane Hall, Dave Edwards, Sharon Webb, Huw Thomas, Robbie Wilkinson, Andy Oakes and Mike Laird (Alan Laird's son who was on work experience with the team).

## Have you got news for us?

IF you have a story for *Contact* please get in touch with editor Anne Benson on 800 2098 (internal) or 01244-652098, or Ron Quenby on 01244-678575 or fax 01244-678749.

# Contact



Manweb

A ScottishPower Company

NEWSLETTER FOR MANWEB PEOPLE

September 2001

# Calm advice helped save farmer's life

**A** SCOTTISHPOWER call centre employee has saved the life of a farm worker – using advice from a BBC programme prepared with the help of staff in the Manweb area, which she had amazingly seen the week before.

Pauline O'Donnell had seen the 999 programme which featured a reconstruction of an incident on a farm near Warrington, Cheshire, in which a farmer survived an 11,000 volt shock from an overhead power cable touching his tractor.

When she took an evening call telling her about a carbon-copy incident which was occurring in the Lockerbie area, she was able to give the farmer the crucial advice to stay in his tractor because the mock-up had shown it would act as a conductor to the electricity.

The farmer's wife had told Pauline that the tractor had hit an overhead cable which in turn landed on top of the tractor.

Pauline, a member of the faults and

emergencies team at Cathcart, averted the potentially life-threatening situation by contacting the PSMC who then asked a control engineer to isolate the supply to the area of the farm, enabling the farmer to leave his tractor safely.

Liam Cowe, Distribution Call Centre Operations Manager, said: "Pauline handled the situation perfectly – her recollection of the scenario and her ability to remain calm in such a desperate situation ultimately saved a life".

Phil Currie, Manweb's Control and Restoration Manager who was Mersey Network Manager at the time of the Warrington incident in May 2000, helped the BBC to make their film.

In that incident, a 30-year-old farmer had been using his tractor to tow a spraying boom when the equipment touched the overhead cable and sent a huge charge through his body.

He had earthed himself by getting out of his tractor – the wrong thing to do.

Phil said: "We gave assistance to the BBC producers by building a line for them in a field and setting up a mock fault. It is good to know that the programme had the desired effect."

Kate Walker, Distribution Call Centre Manager based at Pentre Bychan, has now obtained a video of the 999 programme from the BBC for viewing by all DCC staff.

She said: "The video reinforces a key safety message. Pauline's call response emphasises the valuable work of the staff, which sometimes includes saving lives."



## A funny thing happened to me on the way to the Forum...

MEET GIRTHICUS MAXIMUS... one of Manweb's Prenton staff recently donned historical costume to live as a Roman on Hadrian's Wall. To find out who and why, see story Page 3.

## Strong results for quarter

SCOTTISHPOWER'S 1st Quarter financial results covering the period from April-June 2001 show a solid group financial performance with profit before tax of £105 million. The integration of UK energy activities, involving a sharper focus on energy customers, is progressing well.





Dressed for safety – a pupil at Wepre Primary School, Connah's Quay during a visit by Manweb staff.

## Talking safety to the classrooms

MORE than a dozen primary schools on Deeside were visited under a programme to warn children about the dangers of electricity with reference to cable refurbishment ongoing in their area.

With Wrexham CSC adviser Jan Boyton organising the project, Customer Service staff gave presentations including a safety video to the youngsters, alerting them to the 132,000 volt cable refurbishment programme.

"We spoke to more than 1,800 children," said Jan. "We warned them about the dangers of climbing up the gantries used in the refurbishment and gave them other safety information, and they took the message very seriously."

Also involved in the school visits were Marian Scott, of Caernarfon CSC, Yvonne Edwards, of Rhyl CSC and Anne Thompson, CSC Administrative Co-ordinator.



Wrexham CSC adviser Jan Boyton gives a talk to pupils at Wepre Primary School accompanied by her colleague Yvonne Edwards of Rhyl CSC.

# Help for people with low income

**M**ANWEB is working together with the Riverside Credit Union in Speke to ensure that people in disadvantaged circumstances get cheaper electricity.

The partnership is part of the company's wider support for credit unions – non profit-making financial co-operatives run by their members – under the Government's Social Action plan.

John Kennedy, Customer Relations Manager, said: "We are exploring ways of giving people on low incomes greater access to cheaper fuel. One of the ways of doing this is to provide access to the Premier Plus package of prices to people without traditional bank accounts.

"By working with credit unions we are hoping that customers without bank

accounts can set up the equivalent of a direct debit. This is particularly advantageous to customers who have prepayment meters and therefore pay a meter rental.

"Joining a credit union also secures the opportunity to save regularly and obtain loans at low rates of interest."

Contact readers who are interested in joining the proposed Chester Credit Union should fill in the attached Pledge Form. Pledges from 1,500 people are required by the steering group before the Union can be set up.

For information on the proposed Chester Credit Union, including a Pledge Form, phone Rosalind Hough on 01244-402331, and for Credit Unions in Flintshire phone Ron Evans on 01244-818815.

## POWERPartners

### Age Concern staff training

METER READERS are to receive training to spot signs of older people being mistreated.

The initiative, in Scotland, is being carried out by Age Concern Scotland whose Elder Abuse Project is being part-funded by PowerPartners.

The problem of elder abuse is said to be widespread in Scotland, where up to 100,000 older people are estimated to be victims – either physical, financial, sexual or emotional.

Age Concern Scotland will give training to the meter readers, who are in close contact with older people every day during the course of their work.

ScottishPower has 400,000 older customers in Scotland and it also plans to introduce cards for post offices with a helpline number for older abuse victims.

### Flying the flag

MANWEB took a stand at the RAF Valley Open Day on Anglesey, an event which takes place every six years, at which they promoted PowerPartners as well as energy efficiency measures and facilities for the disabled.

Iona Ross-Jones, Gareth Prydderch and Tina Jones, all CSC Representatives, and Jason Proctor, of the Call Centre at Caernarfon, distributed leaflets and gave out information throughout the day.

### Rising to challenge

AN intrepid party of volunteers ascended 2,930 feet up the slopes of Cader Idris, the North Wales mountain, and walked about eight miles to raise money for PowerPartners.

"We had already climbed the highest mountain in Wales, Snowdon, so we decided to try the prettiest," said Melanie Jones, North Wales and Cheshire SuperCentre Manager.

## University success

MANAGING Director Stewart Saunders, second left, presented Open University MBA certificates to, left to right, Roy Jones of ScottishPower Learning, Janet Ford, Customer Service Team Leader Power Systems, Paul McKelvie, Director of ScottishPower Learning, Claire Anderson, Support Manager Power Systems, and Sue Reece, Call Centre Manager.



## Girthicus Maximus happy to do what the Romans do

WHEN on Hadrian's Wall do as the Romans did... Tony Bainbridge was happy to travel back in time when he helped organise a historical adventure holiday for a group of primary school children.

Tony, Overhead Line Maintenance Manager based in Prenton, is a Governor at The Meadows Primary in Oswestry, Shropshire, and he is a supervisor on the annual character-building trip for

youngsters in their last year.

This time the school took a lead from the National Curriculum and chose a Roman theme, with 40 youngsters, two teachers and two governors staying at the Youth Hostel at Once Brewed on the Wall.

As part of the exercise the members of the party – including Tony – dressed in Roman costume including helmets, tunics and shields which they had made

themselves, and they lived like Romans even to the extent of making oatcakes, singing their own marching song and playing Roman games.

"We were all amazed how technically advanced the Romans were," said Tony, otherwise affectionately known on the holiday as Girthicus Maximus. "One of the highlights was seeing an archaeologist unearth a leather shoe".

# Down memory lane... and stroll up the prom

**A** group of older people were taken on a seaside trip "down memory lane" in a PowerPartners vintage bus thanks to a brainwave by Iona Ross-Jones.

The Customer Service Representative raised money from local businesses so that members of centres for the elderly in Llangefni could travel in style to Llandudno, reviving their childhood Sunday school trips to the resort.

The group of 20 from the Tegfan Day Care Centre and the Penlan Centre were treated to a slap-up lunch of fish and chips followed by trifle before taking in the sights and having an ice cream on the pier.

Iona got the idea when she visited the Tegfan Day Care Centre, run by Age Concern, as part of the PowerPartners Day held to raise awareness for the charitable initiative. When she started chatting to the guests in the Centre they told her about their one-time trips.

"PowerPartners had kindly been given the use of a vintage bus which we had been planning to drive across Anglesey but we had to cancel because of foot and mouth. This seemed the perfect opportunity to use it," she said.

"Everyone had a really great day and enjoyed themselves. For one man it was the first time he had been on a bus! I would like



to thank all the businesses who supported us to the tune of more than £500 and helped to make it such a wonderful day out."

● Iona is pictured above at Llandudno

sharing an ice-cream by the seaside with some of the day-trippers from the Tegfan Day Care Centre and the vintage bus in the background.

## Readers' offer to ride Great Orme Tramway after Manweb help with £1.3 million facelift

THANKS to Contact, Manweb staff past and present, together with their families, can enjoy a low-cost trip aboard the new-look Tramway at Llandudno, North Wales.

Manweb has helped the unique Great Orme Tramway reopen for business following a

£1.3 million facelift.

The company has worked with Conwy County Borough Council to lay new underground cables, to feed the equipment that hauls the tram up and down the ancient headland.

The tramway is Britain's only cable-hauled tram that crosses

public roads. Its original carriages, all named after saints, are still in use (since 1902) on the track which is just under a mile long.

Included in the refurbishment is a new Halfway Station, built in stone and slate.

By taking along this article

and quoting reference number SP1, readers can save 10 per cent on the cost of tramway tickets, which are normally £3.80 for adults and £2.60 for children.

The offer runs until Sunday October 28. Trams run from 10 am until 6 pm.





## Green Source signing

KNOWSLEY Metropolitan Council has signed a new deal to use ScottishPower's Green Source, with the benefits being reflected in the costs of running more than 200 Council sites including schools, libraries and leisure centres.

The deal means that the sites will now have a percentage of their electricity supply matched to small-scale hydro and on-shore wind sources of generation operated by ScottishPower across the UK. ScottishPower will supply 5.1 million kWh's (30 per cent) of the Council's annual 17 million kWh annual electricity consumption from certified renewable sources.

This will result in the CO<sub>2</sub> emissions attributable to the Council's energy demands being cut.

● Manweb Managing Director Stewart Saunders and Knowsley Council Chief Executive Steve Gallagher are pictured above with a model of a wind turbine at signing of the Green Source deal.

## Trustee elections

THE responsibility for the management of the Manweb Group of the Electricity Supply Pension Scheme is vested with nine trustees, six of whom are elected by the membership and three are appointed by the Company. Trustee elections are held every 18 months with trustees holding office for a three-year period.

The term of office of three trustees expires on 31 December 2001 and we are currently seeking nominations from both contributing members and pensioners interested in standing for election. Nomination forms, copies of the rules of the election together with the details on what the role of a trustee entails can be obtained from Lynne Rosser on 01244 652066 or Stuart Stephen on 0141 566 4630.

Each nomination form must be signed by ten members and submitted by 30 September 2001. If there are more nominations than vacancies in either category, a ballot will be held with the results announced before the end of December.

## Pension Scheme AGM

THE sixth AGM of the Manweb Group of the Electricity Supply Pension Scheme will be held at Prenton on Tuesday 30 October at 4pm. Stewart Saunders, Chairman of the Trustees, along with other trustee members, will be on hand to answer questions.

For those members unable to attend, there will be roadshows on Thursday, November 1 at Pentre Bychan and on November 7 at Lister Drive, both at 4pm. Refreshments will be served from 3pm. All members and pensioners are welcome.

The main ESPS AGM will take place on Wednesday, October 31 2001 in the Conference Forum, The Marsh Centre, London E1 8DX at 1.30pm.

For further details on any of the above, please contact Stuart Stephen, Group Administrator, Tel 0141 566 4630 (ext.) 704 4630 (int.) or Lynne Rosser, Technical Services Manager Tel 01244 652066 (ext.) 800 2066 (int.).

## Manweb-sponsored theatre skills workshop is a big hit with young people at Flint Youth Centre



Chelsea Holdings laughs off a bullet hole in the head.



A bruised and battered Gareth Robins takes it all in his stride.



It's not a real cut but Sam Hughes still finds it gruesome.



Liam Sears gets a eye cut - courtesy of make-up artist Carol Udale.



Todd Hodson checks out his bullet hole in a mirror.

# Theatre make-up artists are a cut above the rest

THE victim lurched forward, his face terribly disfigured and his gashed arm held in a sling.

As he struggled to stay upright he looked as if he had been in a terrible car accident, or as if he was still in pain after falling down a steep flight of stairs.

But then, surprisingly, Gareth Roberts laughed. "Actually I've been in an imaginary punch-up," he said. "I want to be an actor and this is exactly the kind of part I would enjoy playing."

Gareth, aged 12, of Flint, North Wales, was taking part in a Manweb Theatre Skills Workshop for Young People and he was enjoying every minute of the theatrical make-up teach-in.

The Workshop, one of a series organised as part of the Flintshire Youth and Community Service's Summer Activity Programme in conjunction with Clwyd Theatr Cymru and sponsored by Manweb, was being held at the Flint Youth Centre.

More than 20 youngsters aged 11-18 attended to learn how to make Casualty-style cuts and



Young people at the theatre skills workshop show off their "stage injuries" which were cleverly provided by make-up artist Carol Udale, pictured right. Youth Outreach Worker Dan Connaughton Hillier is pictured left.

bruises using a variety of specialist techniques.

Freelance art tutor Carol Udale demonstrated ways of faking "blood and gore" to the obvious delight - and occasional horror - of the participants.

To achieve one of the more spectacular disfigurements she modelled soft putty on to the bridge of a "victim's" nose, and

copying by the youngsters was "The Mad Axe Man," showing the victim with a broken nose, a wound running down his head and a bruised eye.

Dan Connaughton Hillier, a Youth Outreach Worker for Flintshire County Council who attended the session, commented on how the stage make-up exercise was helping to build the participants' social skills and increase their range of self-expression in a situation where they were relaxed and out of school.

### Blood

"It is also giving them a taste of elements of drama work," he said.

Sam Hughes, aged 15, of Flint, who was taught how to create a severed finger covered in blood by Carol, said: "I came here because it is something to do in the holidays and I am finding it very interesting to learn the techniques of stage make-up."

Her sister Stacey Hughes, aged 12, was impressed by the convincing look of her own cut. "Seeing the techniques will



Stage fighting tutor Shaun McGowan shows a few tricks of the trade to Liam Sears.

encourage me to go to the theatre to watch something," she said.

Liam Sears, aged 14, of Flint, had already developed a taste for all things theatrical by attending a similar session with the air cadets. "I like acting and I enjoy the imaginary elements," he said. "I have not forgotten a production of Gulliver's Travels which I saw at Clwyd Theatr Cymru and being here today will certainly encourage me to go back."

Chelsea Holding, aged 12, of Flint, said: "I have really enjoyed the make-up session, especially the imaginary side. I want to be an actress."

The session was judged a great success by Angharad Madog, Education Officer at Clwyd

Theatr Cymru. She said: "The Manweb Theatre Skills Sessions are a superb way of reaching children in disadvantaged areas who might not otherwise come into contact with the theatre. We are building a young audience for the future - they are all given a backstage tour at the end of the summer."

As part of the Theatre Skills programme, stage fighting sessions showing how a fight is staged without anyone getting hurt, and street dancing sessions were also held at a variety of venues throughout Flintshire as well as Flint Youth Centre, including the Youth Centres at Bistre, Caerwys, Connah's Quay, Glanrafon, Greenfield and Saltney.



## Commitment to communities

SCOTTISHPOWER'S annual Community Report, pictured, outlines the company's commitment to the communities it serves and shows how its partnerships have developed during the last year.

Overall the group invested £10.96 million in community, economic, charitable and employability partnerships in 2000/2001, in the United States and United Kingdom.

For example, since the successful Welsh National Opera partnership began three years ago, more than 50,000

people in North Wales have been reached by the Manweb North Wales Season of Opera and its associated community development programme.

Other highlights for the UK included 174 people gaining training or jobs on ScottishPower's New Deal programmes; £750,000 raised through employee efforts for the PowerPartners initiative; 20,000 disadvantaged households provided with home efficiency measures and grants; and the £1 million RuralCare grants programme.



## Ads will punch home dual fuel message

A MAJOR new advertising campaign is punching home the message that ScottishPower and Manweb

ScottishPower are cheaper than British and Scottish Gas for the dual fuel Gas and Electricity Offer, and for gas solus.

There's an element of humour in the campaign, which shows various customers making excuses and trying to avoid talking to a ScottishPower doorstep sales person.

The adverts each end: "Shame, we only wanted to tell them that our gas was cheaper than British Gas".

TV adverts began on August 24 and are being aired in the Scottish Television region, while radio adverts have been played since August 10 on local radio stations such as Radio City, Century FM, Rock FM and Marcher in the Manweb area.

Newspaper adverts have been appearing in the local press in the Manweb area since August 27.

# Search is on for your nominations

THE search is on for nominations for the Manweb/Chronicle Your Champions 2001 - and Anne Thompson has already scooped a prize for coming up with the first in-house suggestion.

Anne, High Street CSC Administrative Co-ordinator, was presented with two tickets for the Chester Gateway Theatre and enjoyed a night watching the Reduced Shakespeare Company.

Her nomination, Lynne Ducker, a catering assistant at a Northwich College, runs a Brownie unit as well as performing a number of other selfless tasks in the community. Anne said: "I was gob-smacked to win a prize. Your Champions is an excellent way of recognising unsung heroes and heroines in the community, and Lynne is a worthy nomination".

If you know of someone in the community whose voluntary work



Anne Thompson, centre, receives her prize from Manweb Managing Director Stewart Saunders with Jan Cahill of Corporate Communications looking on.

goes beyond the expected, please submit the attached nomination form.

● Almost £700 has been given by Manweb staff to the Let's Go

Stroke Club following Call Centre Director Ann-Marie Stagg's meeting with stroke victim Bob Bryant at last year's Your Champions, when Bob appealed for donations.

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Name, contact number and address of person nominated: ..... ..... .....	Your name, contact number and address: ..... ..... .....
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Please tick as appropriate:

<input type="checkbox"/> Champion Man of the Year	<input type="checkbox"/> Champion Woman of the Year
<input type="checkbox"/> Champion Team of the Year	<input type="checkbox"/> Young Champion of the Year (19 or under)
<input type="checkbox"/> Sporting Champion of the Year	<input type="checkbox"/> North Wales
<input type="checkbox"/> Cheshire	

Please return form to: Jan Cahill, Corporate Communications, Manweb House, Chester Business Park, Wrexham Road, Chester CH4 9RF  
(MAKE SURE YOU ENCLOSE REASONS FOR NOMINATION)

# Second postcard book from Tom

A FORMER Manweb meter reader is sharing his valuable collection of historic postcards with a growing following of readers.

Tom Heath, aged 64, of Crosby, has already published one book featuring long-ago scenes in Crosby, Waterloo, Seaforth and Litherland.

Now he has a second with his publishers, Tempus, which deals with the same theme - sepia or black and white prints of the area between the years of 1890 and 1930.

Tom, who started with Manweb as a labourer in 1962 and took early retirement in 1989, hit on the idea of collecting postcards when on a rainy day at Blackpool Winter Gardens he spied a fascinating postcard of Crosby on sale for £30.

"I thought then it must be a nice hobby," he said.

He had already begun collecting when a work colleague in

Retired Manweb meter reader Tom Heath with part of his collection of historic postcards.



the sixties, Jim Cushing, passed on more than 50 postcards based on pictures taken by his photographer father at the end of the 19th century.

Now he has such a wide-ranging variety in his albums that he supplies the Crosby Herald with its Memory Page.

"I am fascinated by the way things were years ago, and many of my cards show areas since

demolished or historical situations," said Tom.

"I have one showing the riots during the Liverpool dock strikes of 1911, and another featuring houses almost toppling over into the sea at Blundellsands due to erosion."

Tom is always on the look-out for more postcards. If you have some, contact him by telephoning 0151-931 2033.

## Welcome to baby Kaitlyn

CONGRATULATIONS to Derfel and Kathleen Hughes, Customer Services Representatives at Caernarfon SuperCentre, on the birth of their daughter Kaitlyn, who weighed in at 8lb 8oz.

## Bootle staff reunion

A REUNION is being held for Manweb staff who worked at the Bootle offices and depot over the years.

Tickets are £6 for the disco and buffet at Bootle Town Hall, at 7.30 pm on November 10.

"The occasion will give people the chance to meet up again. We're planning a big get-together," said Gwen Byrom (whose surname used to be Benbow, and who worked in the Higher Purchasing Section). To obtain tickets phone Gwen on 0151-928 0285.

# EEIBA cash prize winners for May, June and July

THE following are the EEIBA prize draw winners for May, June and July:

Winners for May 2001.

£350 J.Skillen, retd; £250 O.C.Williams, retd; £125 H.J.Parker, retd; £100 H.Wilson, retd; £75 E.W.Foster, retd, V.Blair, Edison Mission; £50 A.Langley, retd, H.Kay, retd, P.McCormick, Oswestry, E.W.Jenkins, retd, M.Jones, retd, J.R.Johnson, retd; £30 J.Harvey, retd, A.Worth, retd, A.D.Murphy, Prenton; £25 L.Clay, retd, C.K.Hofmann, Prenton, C.Jones, retd, W.A.Griffith, retd,

S.Plumb, First Hydro.

Winners for June 2001.

£350 J.J.Wall, First Hydro; £250 J.R.Evans, retd; £125 F.D.Jones, retd; £100 P.J.Rafferty, Lister Drive; £75 H.Pritchard, Caernarfon, E.A.Parks, retd; £50 L.A.Carr, retd, M.B.Renwick, Lister Drive, A.Morgan, retd, W.R.Roberts, retd; £30 L.F.Barlow, retd, P.M.Vickery, Prenton, N.Lightfoot, Pentre Bychan, N.Whittle, retd, E.W.Geddes, retd, K.A.Dibble, Edison Mission Energy, E.Hill, retd; £25 C.Shepherd, retd,

P.Parry, retd, M.Jones, retd.

Winners for July 2001.

£350 A.Davies, Prenton; £250 L.A.Baron, retd; £125 K.T.Banks, retd; £100 P.McLaughlin, Boultings; £75 S.F.Reece, Warrington, S.J.Shires, retd; £50 W.J.Beare, retd, G.W.Hughes, First Hydro, R.J.Hill, retd, J.B.Davies, retd; £30 A.T.Keeling, retd, E.Benyon, retd, P.C.Johnston, retd, E.Allen, retd, R.B.Potts, retd, H.B.Powell, retd; £25 D.Roughley, retd, R.M.Jackson, retd, B.Roberts, Caernarfon, I.C.Harling, retd.

## PENSIONERS NEWS

### Stuck on ship canal

A TRIP along the Manchester Ship Canal was not without its excitement for members of the Gwynedd retirees association.

Their boat became stuck in Barton Lock for half an hour until engineers were able to correct an electrical fault on one of the lock gates.

"We still had a superb day out, including a very interesting visit to the Lowry Art Gallery," said secretary Jean Jones.

### Return to Ireland

THE North Mersey retirees have refused to let the foot and mouth crisis deter them from returning to Ireland for an extended visit.

Although the farmhouses in Athay which they so enjoyed last year are still off limits, they have instead booked town and country houses in County Galway.

### Retirees ramble on

THE North Wirral retirees are continuing with their rambling group following the sad recent death of their walker-in-chief Eric Coley.

Recent walks have been along the coast near Hoylake, and along the canal system in the vicinity of Peckforton Castle.