

Touchpaper

June 1995

ISSUE 14

EDITORIAL

I mentioned in the last issue that we had improved our technology for reproducing your photographs and many of you took me at my word. I hope that the results are acceptable although I didn't reckon on pictures with a sepia tint!

You will also see a large number of quite long articles in place of the short snippets usually printed. These have been reproduced with only minor editing (so as to fit on the page) and I thank all those who have contributed.

Membership continues to grow although, sad to say, there have been some losses in the past few months.

There is a special questionnaire at the end of this issue about potential Site Visits on the morning of the Reunion. This will be your only chance to register your interest in a visit so, don't delay, answer today!

Norman Paul
Editor

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TOUCH BYTES

LAST OF THE SUMMER WINE:

Numbers are picking up a little now the weather is improving since the December meeting, which attracted only 4, to a creditable 19 at our April meeting in the Owl. There would have been more but Gordon Bromberger had to move his daughter and on-in-law to Sheffield and the Colleys were away in Yorkshire. We do get some strange reasons for absence, eg. two members were at the Ideal Home Exhibition - you would have thought they'd achieved 'ideality' by now.

It was good to see Bob and Margaret Brown who had travelled up from Faversham. Ron Treadgold brought Freda's latest watercolour of the press that was housed in the 'water wheel' buildings near the Burning Ground. A photograph was handed round of Harold Young making a presentation with a young Wilf Dukes sitting on on a bench in the background.

One notable absentee was Alan Short who had promised to be along (sorry about the pun) but he has other matters on his mind as his daughter Janet is getting married on Nov 4th. Roy Stenson, looking slimmer and fitter since he retired, was amused when I told him that I'd sent Ted O'Day a birthday card for a one year old report that had failed to see the light of day.

(It's now 2 years old Ted - is it walking and talking yet?).

Some members had seen that preparations for building on the Powdermill Lane Site started in early April. It's taking a lot of pumping followed by gravel to fill 'Lake ERDE'.

On South Site many ex-P1 employees will recall that when Charlie Stacey died a cherry tree was planted in his memory, next to the Large Scale Wet Mix House. I am pleased to report that the tree is full of dark red blossom and looks as if it will outlast Wet Mix!

SPECIAL NOTICE:

LSW visit to South Site on 30th June.

Meet at Quinton Gate at 10am.

Contact me (01992 760912) if you didn't get on the list at the last LSW meeting.

Bryan Howard

RELOCATION:

Yes! Relocation from the Fort back to Waltham Abbey! No, I'm sorry, not people. I had a recent visit from the new WA Site Archeologist, Steve Chaddock, and a maritime engineer from Greenwich to look at the old powder barge at the Fort. I thought it looked pretty decrepit but they were well pleased with the condition and the barge is to be taken back and renovated. We also agreed that the old iron bridge and a cannon procured by Congreve should also return. Steve is very keen to make the North Site an interesting public museum.

Bryan Howard's remark on the 'Charlie Stacey' memorial tree prompts me to inform you that the WA Bicentenary tree planted at WA in 1987 and replanted at the Fort a few years ago is doing fine. I'm glad we moved it since when I visited North Site the other week I was dismayed at the devastation around what used to be flag-staff road. If the tree not been removed it would have undoubtedly gone with the rest!

Norman Paul

MISTRESS MIND

I recognise that face on the tele! That's Sue Baalham, as was, now Sue Salisbury.

Not only a scientist and now a mother but a contestant on Mastermind.

Well done Sue! Pity you came up against the highest scorer ever since the programme started. For those of you who missed it it was broadcast from Warwick castle on Sunday 21st May. The standard was very high and the eventual winner scored a total of 41! a new, all-time record. We're sorry you didn't win Sue; better luck next time.

DEADLINE DATE FOR NEXT ISSUE:

Mid August

write

fax 01959 516023

or

phone 01959 515632

MORE BIG BYTES

ELECTRIFYING EXPERIENCES

The picture of an ancient (1910) electric heater at the Hertford Museum, recently published in the local paper, looked very familiar with exposed 250 watts, mains voltage, tubular carbon filament lamps, looked identical to the ones we used to heat our thermostatted water baths at PDE Boncath, W.Wales. We knew them as 'Robertson Lamps' and they were still in use at ERDE in the early 1950's. These lamps (240v remember!) were immersed in water almost up to the bayonet cap. If, in a futile attempt to improve safety, the glass bulb was only half immersed the stirred paddles would splash water onto the hot exposed glass and crack it. Nowadays, practices like this would be regarded as lethal but, there was a war on and, as one of my cynical friends observed, "Scientists were expendable; difficult to obtain pieces of equipment are not!"

I did, in fact, get a very nasty shock from one when I foolishly adjusted the glass Mercury/Toluene regulator which had become loose. I had put my left hand into the water to hold the regulator while I tightened the clamp with my right. My right index finger just touched the 'live' contact on the side arm of the regulator. I could not let go and my right arm pulsated up and down, still grasping the wooden stand complete with regulator. The fact that it did not break was a miracle. I thought I was going to die.

I am sorry to say that a certain person, famous for his macabre sense of humour, sat in the room, ignoring my cries for help due to the fact that he was helplessly convulsed with laughter. Eventually the oscillations broke contact and I let go. A small hole had been burnt in the side of my finger and my left shoulder felt as if it had been hit with a sledgehammer.

"Fingers" reminds me of the Mullard Radio Valve Factory back in 1947 - part of the Ediswan Lamp Works (now gone) in Ponders End. The valve electrodes were degassed by heating under vacuum to an orange heat inside a bare radiofrequency coil. I was told that harmful stray radiation was detected by the nearest thing to a human finger, ie. an uncooked sausage, complete with embedded thermocouple, impaled on a long glass rod. Could this be? But there again, did the Ice Cream 'Stop Me and Buy One' insulated Box Tricycle, which was pedalled slowly at lunch time up the Long Walk, circa 1950, really contain hot dinners for workers up at NG Hill?

I once shared an office with an ingenious character who came in somewhat late one morning, opened a box file he was carrying and proceeded to eat his (still hot) breakfast of bacon and egg, on plate, complete with knife and fork in situ. Talking about food reminds me of cooking utensils and thence to large palette knives. Palette knives were, and probably still are, an essential part of the oil and colour chemist's personal equipment. There was a disturbingly high consumption of palette knives in the Quality Control lab where I worked in a printing ink works. This loss was not, as suspected, due to someones home cookery. At the factory's annual summer holiday shut down the maintenance men had to empty the ink vat and discovered that the bottom was covered by a layer of the missing knives. It turned out that the Ink Shop Foreman had been presented with, what we in the lab over confidently considered to be a simple and easy-to-use falling ball viscometer to check the constancy of the ink viscosity. This 'easy-to-use' instrument gathered dust on the shelf. The foreman preferred to gently drop a large palette knife vertically into the ink and counting the seconds it took as the blade slowly sank into the ink, catching the handle just before it disappeared for ever. Old 'Inky Joe' however was getting old and his reflexes had become slower which explained the apparent high consumption.

BIGGER BYTES

COLONIAL NEWS

In answer to the comment in issue 13, Yes! There is life in the colonies but, I am disappointed that, owing to family commitments, I will not over to attend the RSAF Tracing Section (1939-45) Re-union this year.

We all made a pact to meet every 5 years on the last Sunday in June at 3pm in Trafalgar Square. In those war days my friend Eileen Francis and myself used to cycle to work in our tin helmets. In those days Mr Laurie Taylor and Edgar Frith were in charge of the drawing office. Those I can remember were: Roy Fisher, Bert Davis, Derick Abel, Ron Roberts, Larry Lamb, Frank Lewis, Bernard Smith, Tony Chapman, Don Barker, Alice Bundy, Richmond Stephens, Jack Gould, Joe Picket, Ron Cork, Geoff Kent, Peter White, Ray Harwood, Dave Darling, Percy Ardley, Joe Samson, Wally Haslam and Mr Harry Sargeant in charge of the Print Room. I often wonder what happened to them all! There were 13 of us girls in the Tracing Section; Mrs Faulkner was our Head Tracer. Most of the girls (girls?) have been meeting ever since, every 5 years. At the last meeting there were 8 of us. Not bad considering one lives in New Zealand, one in Spain and me in Australia. Several of them are dead and gone now, including my dear friend Eileen. One person I know is still with us, Roy Fisher, his name is on the register!

Joan Hills (nee Hamstead)

Lake Munmorah

NSW AUSTRALIA

This photo was sent by Joan but she didn't give a date. It must have been some time ago though as it looks quite old - almost sepia in fact!



Left to Right: Ida Salmon, Joan Stutchbury, Doris Cornish, Mavis Faulkner, Laurie Taylor, Joan Hamstead, Janet Wallace, Doreen Pritchard, Joan Dowler, Joan Lushey, Eileen Francis, Mary Hewlett.

AND MORE

THE LIFE AND TIMES OF DR JOHNSON BY 'BOSWELL'

John Vernon's retirement story about our one-time Chief Superintendent suggests other instances during the earlier period when an unexpected quizzical response to a situation can be reported. Colleagues may remember that at a time when one's car tended to indicate the status of its owner our Chief bought himself a Ford Popular, explaining that it was the only car where he didn't bang his head on the roof! A motoring magazine had found also that only the Ford Popular (the cheapest) and the Rolls Royce (the dearest) had accurate speedometers.

In the early 1950s transatlantic air travel was in its early stages using prop machines and the Ministry permitted choice of travel by sea or by air. For an AXP conference in Quebec, starting on a Monday morning in October, most of us chose air travel ("to get it over with quick") which was a Great Circle Route leaving Prestwick with refuelling stops as required according to the weather in; Iceland, Greenland and Newfoundland. Dr Johnson made out a case for getting there earlier in order to confer with other co-chairmen, which meant leaving on a Friday by the only flight available, the first class only BA Monarch. This was agreed but the flight was delayed for 24 hours at Iceland because of bad weather. The Icelandic authorities did not know what to do with the unexpected distinguished visitors and Dr Johnson said that they 'gave him a bottle of whisky and took him to a dance hall in Reykjavik'; a nice thought. The other delegates from Waltham Abbey left on the Saturday in better weather and arrived before our chairman.

Another peculiarity of the slow Great Circle travel was the effect of time changes which resulted in being served three breakfasts in succession. A colleague from UK avoided all this by travelling by sea and had the experience of standing shivering on the New York quayside while his luggage was being unloaded and seeing it all tipped into the harbour!

So we were all there for the first session. At the conclusion of the first paper the Canadian Chairman asked for questions, responded to very promptly by an ERDE member whilst lounging languidly in his chair. Dr J was very upset and, standing to attention, asked "Is not it in order for members to stand when addressing the chairman?" The situation was saved, to everyone's amusement by the individual in question jumping onto his chair which raised him to the level of Dr J's shoulder! At the following coffee break, the UK members, who were not used to the high temperature of the lecture room, rushed to open the emergency doors and gulp in the cold air; followed by an anguished cry from the American members "Who left that door open!"

A few years later a request was made by the US Army for me to make an investigative visit to their research stations and contractors - they would pay my expenses. The necessary papers were obtained from the US Navy Office in London but it could not provide dollars which had to be issued to me in person from the US Air Force depot in West London. The Ministry Travel Department had promptly booked a first class flight on BOAC but the US Army said I had to travel second class by American airline. On the day of departure all American planes were grounded because of a strike but I still had my BOAC booking and was able to keep to my schedule. On the way I wrote a resignation letter to DR J and posted it in New York. In due course I received a couple of letters from him, they didn't mention my intended resignation but much puzzled my American hosts by addressing me as Esq. - clearly a Johnsonian little joke. "What's all this E-S-Q jazz?" was put to me. On my return I duly reported to my Chief who I found waving my resignation letter and recounting some of the many problems he had also experienced from the same source that had prompted my resignation action. I then realised that his troubles had been far worse than mine and asked for the return of my letter. He started to hand it over, then drew it back saying 'No, it may be useful some other time!' Regarding the end of my trip I completed a detailed travel claim which I presented to the US Navy Office who would not process it unless I copied it from an US Army onto an US Navy form. This I declined to do as the work had been done for the Army which I could say was against my principles as on the US Navy letter of introduction (20 copies) my rank had been stated as "Senior Principle (sic) Scientific Officer". So the claim form was sent back to America and in due course I received an Army cheque; printed on the back was the instruction "this cheque must be signed here. If the recipient signs his name with an X it must be witnessed but the witness cannot sign his name with an X". So now you know!

On my return from a visit to Australia I prefaced my report to the Chef by describing a remarkable incident at the Garden Terrace Hotel in Melbourne when a budgerigar sitting on the register looked up and said "Hello Georgie". Dr J said "Nothing remarkable about that. The same thing happened to me but he didn't say Hello Christopher". I offered to show him my slides of low level shots of Mont Blanc and Alice Springs, courtesy of the kind pilot. He accepted but at the end, no word of thanks, just "You're one of those wretched fellows bobbing up and down with a camera." Truly a Johnsonian remark. When he was appointed DMXRD at ShellMex House he invited me to tea when I was in town. His secretary poured my tea into a most elegant porcelain cup. Just as I was about to drink Dr J intervened and said would I please use this side of the cup - the other side had a large V shaped piece missing.

In conclusion, I had appreciated the strange humour of some of Dr Johnson's remarks which in no way detracted from his work as a really good chief. In 1995 I am reminded of him by seeing the camping table he gave me 40 years ago for camping with my young family, now used for serving tea in the garden with the same family and their adult children.

'Boswell' (alias George Taylor)

AND FURTHERMORE

Seeing it is the first day of Spring (written on 21st March) I thought I'd do something mad, like sending in a couple of old photos and a paper cutting for Touchpaper. I enjoy reading Touchpaper and the mention of Lake Hoppit prompted me to recall memories of dear old Hoppit Hall. I was a young 14 year old clerk (Miss Peggy Dearman) who started work in 1947. I was the only clerk with older TCII and TCIII's, mostly from RSAF.

When I started work in MOSCRDD, as it was then, for 2 years I was in the Stores Office (as seen in the photo). Stores and Wages were all in one room. Then we expanded, with a procession of ladies arriving from CRDD; Mrs Betty Mincedorf (nee Ford), Mrs Anita Mantle (nee Clark) and Mrs Pam Colley (nee Briden), who remains my good friend to this day, Shirley Monk, Norma Hannant, Iris Jagers and Jean Bailey.



The photo was taken in 1948/9 behind No.9 Powdermill Lane. The late 'Queenie' Lane (nee Rich), Joyce Wiltshire (nee Turner) and Olive Hall are also in the picture.

As for Hoppit Hall, we had great Christmas Dances and Parties with all the young laboratory assistants arriving from universities and the forces at that time. Children's Christmas Parties were a joy for us teenagers doing the main Children's Party under the watchful eye of dear Flo Game (who worked in the Laundry). She made bowls of jelly and thousands of little cakes for the "Mills" children of people who worked there. We also did Veterans Dinners there.

The Horticultural Show was also held in Hoppit Hall and I still have a clipping from the local paper (I see George Savill was again in the news and me winning my one and only medal and two first prizes). There are so many names in the clipping that many of you will recognize.

I worked in most of the offices during my stay at ERDE 1947-57 and 1969-79, finishing in Reports / Library before retiring on medical grounds. I also have some good snaps from the ERDE Club; my daughter Jane helped in the Bar when they had a Fancy Dress - so many familiar faces.

Peggy Denty

PS Sorry about the typing - you now know why I never got into the typing pool!

Editors Comments: The above article has been spell checked and edited!

Unfortunately the newspaper clipping cannot be reproduced here but I can tell you that £85 was raised for the ERDE Benevolent Fund including the grand sum of £16 13s 6d from the auction of show produce.

"The Baghdad Observer"

from our special correspondent

Qualifications needed for a UN Missile Inspector in Iraq? Not, surely a short sighted, 68 year old pensioner, deaf in one ear (at least), who has rarely seen a missile too large to pick up with two hands? Quite what it was in the CV that appealed to the people at UNSCOM (United Nations Special Commission) in New York is still a puzzle. Expendability perhaps? or something in the 10 passport size photographs also requested?

Whatever the reason, I learned on October 7th that I'd been selected - an hour after Saddam Hussein began to move his troops back down to the Kuwait border. After a few days briefing in Bahrain, the team, (missile group 2) flew across to Iraq on October 14th. By that time Saddam had decided to withdraw again; perhaps he'd also seen the passport photos!

UNSCOM maintains four Inspection Teams in Baghdad, covering; nuclear, chemical, biological and missile activities respectively. A major part of the Missile Group's task involves visits (often "no notice") to about 30 sites, roughly half of them within some 30 minutes driving time from UNSCOM HQ in Baghdad. Since Iraq is still permitted to hold, design and build missiles with a range not exceeding 150 kms, most sites are still active, sometimes on civil applications, sometimes military, sometimes both. Much of the equipment needed for manufacturing and testing of longer range missiles was destroyed during the Gulf War or on UN instructions later. Missiles still in service and the more critical items of equipment still permitted are "tagged" to facilitate monitoring by UNSCOM. Ground surveillance by fixed cameras and visits by the inspection teams are backed up by regular aerial inspection.

Transport by road is by 4x4 (Nissan or Toyota) but for longer trips we were given a lift by UN helicopter, manned by Luftwaffe air-crew and dedicated primarily to aerial photography. The fliers have a reputation for being mad and set out to prove it to their guests, doing everything short of flying upside down. Once back on terra firma you can have further excitement by clambering up on a transporter/launcher, crawling on your back between Russian Volga missiles while being helpfully advised from ground level "not to touch the missiles at any cost - the Iraqis may not have grounded (earthed) them properly!" As relaxation you can expect to be asked to "take the notes" - notes, that is three way discussions in Arabic, Russian and fractured English (or worse American) while standing in the middle of a noisy workshop. This little task is not made easier by the Iraqis' tendency to have at least 3 different names for any one site, 2 different building numbers for each building and the foresight to remove all identification (including manufacturers names) from the equipment. Finally you have the pleasure of writing up the visit reports on one of the clapped out laptops. Success on these carried odds similar to winning the national Lottery. Spanking new ones arrived just before I left but the first one plugged in objected to Baghdad's 220V supply, having been designed for 110!

Away from work life can be depressing since the UN provide little or no recreational facilities or entertainment. On the bright side, a surprisingly good range of cuisines is available in some Baghdad restaurants, albeit at prices, although modest by UN subsistence standards, are obviously beyond the pockets of most locals. A wide range of fruits and vegetables, fresh bread etc. can be brought, again at prices which ordinary Iraqis cannot afford. Excellent Arak and Iraqi beers are on sale in corner shops and genuine 12 year old Scotch and cognac from the diplomats 'Duty Free' - Haig Dimple for example costs \$US9. So plenty of fuel for regular evening parties, usually with at least 5 nationalities but predominantly Russians and Brits in our case. I'll treasure for many years the memory of 'Boris' singing sad love ballads, Yuri's "Chatanooga Choo Choo" (apparently very popular in Russia) and of the near outbreak of WW3 when neither would stand up when Greg the Pole sang his national anthem. Sadly there were few opportunities to get to know the locals apart from the official Iraqi minders but in restaurants, shops and during site visits no hostility was apparent. The impression is of a generally tolerant, courteous and kindly people. It was a surprise to me to see active Christian churches, shops decorated for Christmas and that even Muslims observe Christmas holiday.

As a tour company I suppose that the UN would not rate highly. The hotels were badly run down and the service often farcical; but the helicopter trips and Jeep Safaris came without extra charge. Try it if you get a chance. I'm sure you'll be glad you went but even gladder to get back home.

from **Eric Baker** the Baghdad Observer

*Many Thanks Eric for your fascinating report - a bit of a change from most peoples foreign trips!
This also explains why you didn't make it to last years re-union - hope to see you this year. Ed.*

In Memoriam

We have recently heard of the death, last August, of W J Moss.

Also, late last year, of the death of Bernie Davis who worked in NM, one of the most cheerful EWs ever.

John Kemp

John Kemp passed away on 31st May after a heart attack. As many of you know, John had heart problems for some time and underwent a bypass operation a number of years ago. Although he retired at about the time the North Site closed John remained very active and his sudden death came as a shock to us all.

John started work at Waltham Abbey in 1948 and was a stalwart member of the Process Research Group. He stayed with the Ministry on the split with Royal Ordnance and worked his remaining time in the Process Chemistry Group.

He was always the most capable and kindly person, always ready with a helping hand or advice. Many will also remember his prowess on the field in the old North Site versus South Site cricket matches.

His funeral was held at the Abbey Church on the 8th June and was attended by many ex-colleagues.

John had recently said that "If I win the Lottery I'd like to make a big donation to the St. Joseph's Hospice in Hackney where they looked after my father so well". For this reason, Jill has asked for no flowers but would prefer instead for donations to this hospice.

Jean Richards has agreed to collect donations on John and Jill's behalf and forward the total to St. Joseph's.

Please send any donations to Jean at:

3, The Cobbins
Waltham Abbey
ESSEX
EN9 1BL

Cheques can be made payable to Mrs J Richards.

NORTH SITE UPDATE

Firstly we have to say that the future of South Site is still the subject of planning action due to be heard later this year.

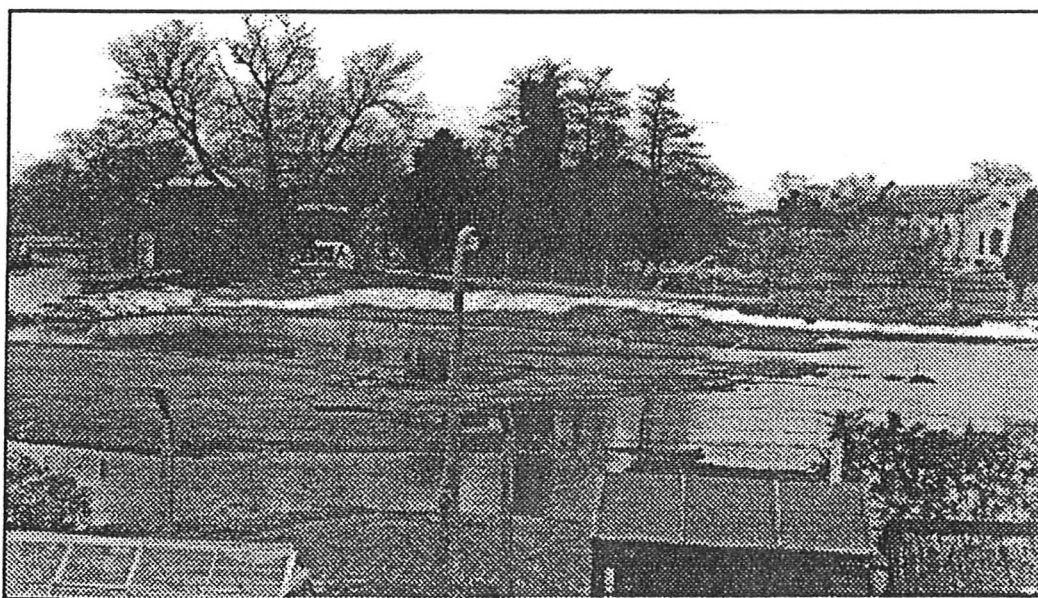
The news for North Site however is very encouraging. It was announced in April that the MOD has agreed to put up £6 million towards the development of the site as a museum and heritage project. A total of £14.8 million has been estimated as the full cost and it is hoped that much of the remaining funding will be provided from the Heritage Lottery Fund; through proceeds from the National Lottery and money from English Heritage.

Contamination clear-up is expected to be complete by the autumn and it is planned that the museum will be completed and opened within 3 years.

Despite this good news it is still quite sad to see the devastation evident at the south end of the Site, as these two photographs, provided by George Savill, show:



At the entrance where the tennis courts used to be!



Looking north over the site of the 'New Canteen', latterly the Club!

1995 REUNION

ANNUAL WALTHAM ABBEY REUNION

Just to remind you once again of the 1995 Reunion at the Waltham Abbey Town Hall on Friday the 20th October.

You will find a questionnaire at the end of this issue regarding possible Site Visits on the day.

Booking forms for the Reunion will be sent out with the September issue of Touchpaper.

Bearing in mind some dissatisfaction with the catering last year we have now booked an alternative caterer, but of course, this does mean that the cost will rise. However, don't panic, the cost to you will be the same as last year!

We still have a modest surplus from previous years which is sufficient to pay for the Hall and still leave a balance for the future. This means you will only be charged the actual cost of the food.

WA REUNION BALANCE SHEET

Balance from	£185-51	Hall Deposit	30-00
'93 & '94 Reunions		Caterer Deposit	50-00
			<hr/>
			£80-00

as at June 1995

Cash in Hand	£105-51
Balance of Hall Hire	<hr/> 50-00
Float against future contingencies & Misc.	<hr/> 55-51

THE TOUCH PAPER REGISTER

ADDITIONS

as at 5th June 1995

<u>name</u>	<u>currently at</u>	<u>WA dates</u>	<u>WA section 's</u>
David Ashen	MOD Main Building	1963 - 67	M2
Steve Bell	Suffolk	1956 - 81	P1
Barbara Bell	Suffolk	1968 - 82	Surgery
Mrs Blows	Upshire		Main Lab
Mary Chaplin	Nazeing		Library/ISRG
Barbara Coe	Cheshunt	1977 - 90	Laundry/P1
Bill Coe	Cheshunt	1976 - 89	BWD
Edna Cole	Edmonton		
Geoff Creigh	Upshire [rtd]	1935 - 64	Cordite
Ken Crisp	Waltham Abbey		
Ted Hitch	Bourne LINC'S [rtd]	1923 - 67	Main Lab.
Alan Jones	Waltham Abbey		Stores
Frank Kirby	O B Empress State London	1985 - 91	ET5
Leslie Phillips	Sheffield [rtd]	1946 - 1977	E Branch/SGC
Cyril Povey	West Sussex [rtd]	1939 - 44	RGPF Main Lab
Jean Povey	West Sussex [rtd]	1937 - 44	RGPF Office
Geoff Stocks	Saffron Walden	1947 - 79	P2/P1
Peter Stone	Empress State LONDON	1967 - 84	P1
Pat Webber	Deeside CLWYD		Instrumentation

AMENDMENTS

<u>name</u>	<u>currently at</u>
Dave Lee	Waltham Abbey - Rtd.
Kevin Potter	Bristol
Tom George	Cheshunt

A FULL LIST WILL BE PUBLISHED EACH YEAR
WITH THE SEPTEMBER ISSUE

ADDITIONS OR AMENDMENTS WILL APPEAR HERE EACH QUARTER

PLEASE CONTINUE TO NOTIFY THE EDITOR OF
ANY CHANGES TO OR OMISSIONS IN YOUR ENTRY

MISCELLANY

The 'Boat Race' article in the last issue also turned up in the Civil Service Fellowship magazine and I was about to send it in to Touchpaper. My revenge on Dave Salter for beating me to it is "Who Owns the Zebra?", also going the rounds. Bryan Howard

WHO OWNS THE ZEBRA?

1. There are 5 houses, each with a front door of different colour and inhabited by men of different nationalities, with different pets and different drinks. Each man also smokes a different brand of pipe tobacco.
2. The Englishman lives in a house with a red door.
3. The Spaniard owns a dog.
4. Coffee is drunk in the house with a green door.
5. The Ukrainian drinks tea.
6. The house with the green door is to the right (your right) of the house with the ivory door.
7. The Medium Cut smoker owns snails.
8. Spun Cut is smoked in the middle house.
9. The Norwegian lives in the first house on the left.
11. The man who smokes Mixture lives next door to the man with a fox.
12. Spun Cut is smoked next door to the house where the horse is kept.
13. The Flake smoker drinks orange juice.
14. The Japanese smokes Rough Cut.
15. The Norwegian lives next door to the house with the blue door.

Now, who owns the Zebra and who drinks water?

Answer (but not necessarily an explanation) in our next issue.

The following was received from Richard Burlend and is in the nature of a DRA 'in-joke'. Nevertheless, with suitable substitution of a name it probably applies to any organisation:

"Four people were arguing as to the nature of the oldest profession. The lawyer claimed his was oldest as when Cain killed Abel he would have needed proper representation.

The doctor was sure that when Eve was created from Adam's rib then the services of a competent surgeon was necessary.

The architect's view was that careful planning was essential when order first emerged from chaos.

"That clinches it" exclaimed John Chisholm (for it was He). Chief Executive MUST be the oldest profession! Who else could create such chaos?

SITE VISITS QUESTIONNAIRE

On the morning of the Re-union on 20th October we are hoping to arrange visits to both North and South Sites.

Each visit will commence at about 10.00 and will last for about 2 hours.

Numbers will be limited and it will not be possible to attend both visits.

We will try and accommodate as many people as possible but it is inevitable that some of you may have to be disappointed.

If you wish to be considered for one of the visits please indicate which one on the form below and return, as soon as possible, to the Editor.

In the event of overbooking we will give preference to those travelling some distance. (Additional visits for 'locals' may be possible at a later date)

All respondents will be notified directly (posted with your next issue in September).

In our next issue we will be asking for bookings for the Re-union.

.....
SITE VISITS '95

I wish to be considered for a Site Visit on 20th October:

FIRST CHOICE Site

SECOND CHOICE Site

Name

Address

.....

.....

RETURN TO THE EDITOR AS SOON AS POSSIBLE