



Review

123

THE SOUTH STAFFORDSHIRE WATERWORKS COMPANY
QUARTERLY MAGAZINE
MARCH 1983

90,000 Midlanders told: Start boiling

More than 90,000 Midland consumers were advised today to boil their drinking water.

The warning was flashed out to consumers in the Macclesfield and Warrington areas after "irrevocable" last night coupled their one million gallon service reservoir at Hayley Green.

"I don't know whether consumers panicked and the drains on the reservoir was excessive", South Staffordshire Waterworks Co. manager Bob Wright explained today.

Because of the intermittent overnight supply for drinking and food preparation for two or three minutes.

The strike — now entering its third week — is beginning to pose serious problems for the private water company.

by DAVID BELL

Its number of hours shot up from 24 to 84 over the weekend. The biggest crisis is at Macclesfield, where supplies to 2,000 families have been cut off. Standpipes are being used to supply water to the town.

But the once empty reservoir at Hayley Green is refilling satisfactorily.

Seven Trent officials today renewed their "best of luck" to a million consumers living in and around Birmingham.

DON'T RUSH TO FLUSH

FLUSH TOILETS WITH WATER SAVED FROM OTHER AREAS

THE SOUTH STAFFORDSHIRE WATERWORKS COMPANY

DEADLOCK AGAIN IN WATER WAR

Settlement — at last

ended as talks fail

The water workers' strike went into its third week today with no early solution in sight.

Talks at the conciliation service ACAS broke up last night after nearly 12 hours. Union leaders rejected the employers' latest offer.



The dispute over, Len Hill (left) and Ron Keating shake hands on it.



Fears of standpipe freeze-up

Extra misery could face 7,500 waterless West Midlanders later this week if standpipes start to freeze in the cold snap.

The warning went out today as weathermen at Birmingham University forecast more snow and frosts for the next few days.

"Standpipes will freeze even free speak several per cent."

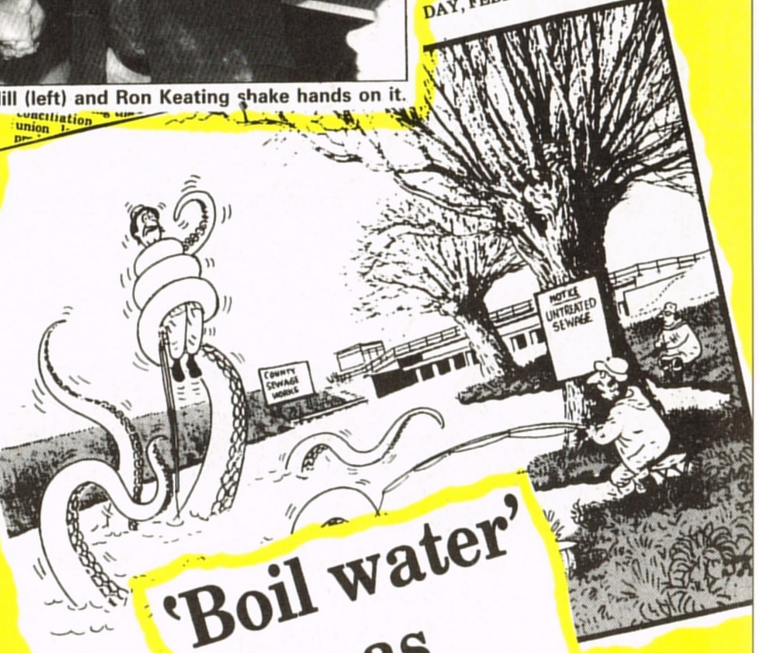
New of pe water

The conciliation service ACAS moved swiftly today to bring the two sides together for talks aimed at hopes of a breakthrough.

ACAS officials contacted employers and unions for separate and exploratory negotiations.

These are likely to start tomorrow, although the possibility of a preliminary meeting tonight had not been ruled out.

DAY, FEBRUARY 7, 1983



WATER EMERGENCY

● HALF THE WATER NORMALLY USED CAN BE SAVED

TOILETS

- Flush less often
- Flush with water saved from other uses

BATHS

- Take a shower instead
- Limit depth to 3 inches
- Save water for other purposes

WASHING UP

- Wash up less frequently
- Use a bowl
- Save water for other purposes

PERSONAL WASHING

- Use a quart or less
- Restrict use of hot tap
- Do not wash under a running tap

WASHING MACHINES

- Do not use dishwashers
- Use washing machines only if fully loaded

WASTE

- Stop leaks and dripping taps

Do not wash private cars

BOIL ALL WATER IF:

- Water supply becomes discoloured
- Water is obtained from a standpipe

IF YOUR WATER SUPPLY FAILS —

CONSERVE your store of water in clean containers, and collect more from nearest standpipe

SWITCH OFF gas and electric water heaters. Put out fires with a BACK BOILER

USE THE WATER available in your hot water system sparingly once all heating has been switched off

'Boil water' plea as reservoir

A Super New Deal for all Motorists

At

South Staffordshire
Waterworks
Company



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● Access and Barclaycard welcome

From the Editor's Desk...

May I convey to you all my sincere wishes for Health, Happiness and Prosperity in 1983.

I strive at all times to produce an interesting and useful magazine and I make it an essential part of all Advertisement that the reader can hopefully benefit by discounts and special offers, so please take advantage of these, as Advertising Revenue enables us to improve the magazine in other ways.

I have introduced a new article called 'Information on Tap' and hope to make this a regular feature. It is a serious attempt to bring to you topical informative news.



● 1983 has already introduced us to two 'FIRSTS':

The **First** time Waterworkers have voted to take strike action. A situation that no one would, I am sure, have wanted to happen. Hope of solving this dispute in the first few days gradually dwindled.

As we entered the fourth week of the strike, an agreement was reached to allow an Independent Committee of Enquiry to sit and decide a solution.

After much debating and delays the Committee produced its formula and the strike was over shortly afterwards. The final settlement is to be effective from 5th December 1982 to 1st April 1984.

The **First** time we have by law been required to use seat belts.

A fact that is very controversial but I personally believe necessary and it will be interesting to see the facts and figures at the end of 1983.

I am sure that there will be occasions when seat belts will cause deaths but outweighed against the many times that human life will be prevented from serious or fatal injuries, these will not disprove the validity of this law.

The Move to Sandfields

On Monday 1st November 1982 Administrative and Technical Staff officially transferred from Burton and Cannock depots to a Northern Area Office at Sandfields in Lichfield.

The Main office accommodation is situated within the old Laboratory building which has been modified by the addition of extra partitioning to form office accommodation for the Water Regulations Inspectorate, Administration, Consumer Operations, Mains and Services and Technical sections. The Area Manager, the Assistant Manager and typist have been located in the adjacent Treatment Works building.

A total of 23 staff have moved to Sandfields, eight from Burton, ten from Cannock, two from Green Lane and three who reported to both Burton and Cannock offices.

An interesting feature of the Northern Area office is the new telephone system. The main terminal contains a micro-processor which can be used to store the most frequently used telephone numbers so that, when a particular number is required, a single button can be pressed instead of dialling the whole number.

The drawing office has been re-equipped as necessary with drafting machines, plan-primers and a vertical plan-file to replace the old plan chests. In addition the microfiche file and display viewer recently installed at Cannock has been transferred to the new office. This is used to determine the location of electricity services in the Cannock district and represents a major improvement in safety standards where personnel are working in the vicinity of underground electricity cables.

The move to the new Area Office of the Consumer Service from the Central Office at Green Lane, completes the devolution of authority to the Area Offices under the recent re-organisation. The Lichfield office now deals with all housing developments from outline planning stage to completion of the final service connection to new dwellings. This has led to a significant reduction in the level of internal mail and telephone calls, leading to a much quicker response time and consequently, an improved level of service to the consumer.

This improvement has not been achieved lightly however, and some staff are now required to travel much longer distances to work. However, the larger pool of staff has enabled an improved use of flexi-time for staff and a higher level of attendance on day-release training courses. What's more you can now find Ron Lawrence!

D. WESTON

Water Charges 1983/84

Water supply charges to Householders in the area of the Company will rise by 3.3% from the 1st April 1983. The cost of water to the average house will be £28.50 per year, or less than 8p per day. The water rate will be 13.7p in the pound.

The charge for water supplied through a meter will be 20.71p per cubic meter, an increase of 5.0%; Consumer related charges for 15mm, 20mm and 25mm supplies increase by £2.00 per annum each; larger sizes remaining unaltered; there is no change to the minimum usage charges.

Charges determined by the Severn Trent Water Authority for sewerage and environmental services will continue to be collected by the Company from properties within its area on the same bills as the water supply charges.

In fixing charges at this level, Directors were particularly conscious of the problems facing industry in the West Midlands and the high level of unemployment, and require all Departments of the Company to operate at maximum efficiency. The fall-off in trade demand, due to the recession, is not matched by a corresponding reduction in the costs of operation, and therefore the search for economies must continue, whilst maintaining an adequate standard of service to consumers.

COMPANY TIES AND SCARVES...

It is has been decided that it would be an acceptable idea to introduce a Company Tie and Scarf.

Mr W. A. Markham, Managing Director, has suggested that those of you, who are artistic, may like to submit designs to be considered. Should any of these be used, the successful designer will receive a small prize and a tie or scarf. Please let me, Celia Turner, have the proposed design before 30th April 1983.





WINSTON CHURCHILL MEMORIAL TRUST

SOUTH STAFFS STATESIDE AGAIN...

TERRY McALLISTER (Assistant Area Manager of Walsall) has been awarded a scholarship by the WINSTON CHURCHILL MEMORIAL TRUST. He is to travel to America and Canada to study Managerial and Technical Aspects of the Water Supply.

PETER WALKER (Waste Officer—SEVERN TRENT AUTHORITY) has also received a scholarship. He will study Underground leak detection with particular reference to non-metallic pipes in America.

The Trust founded in 1965 is subscribed by the people of this country and provides and enables men and women who might never otherwise have the chance to travel abroad to widen their knowledge of their own field of activity and to gain better insight into the lives and work of the rest of the world. It is hoped the experience they gain will enable them to contribute more effectively to their profession.

The subjects considered for scholarship cover the arts; social and public services; industry; commerce; science and the environment.

Since 1965, 190 different subjects have been chosen in which 1,630 people have gained awards. Terry's success in receiving his award is a great credit to our Water Company.

Polly Produces Passive 'Pilot' Number One!

It had always been my ambition to own two dogs, already having had one Labrador bitch named Kara for seven years. So when I retired from the Company I thought this would be the ideal opportunity to acquire another one and at the same time to contribute in a small way to helping people less fortunate than ourselves. It was with this in mind that my wife, Barbara, and I approached the Guide Dogs for the Blind Association with a view to having a brood bitch.

Brood bitches are selected from a litter of puppies and kept for breeding purposes, and the Association like to have some of them put into a home environment to have their litter, also enabling them to have more bitches than the accommodation would take at the Breeding Centre. Having been 'vetted' by one of the Association's supervisors as suitable applicants for a brood bitch, we travelled to Tollgate House near Warwick with our own Labrador to be introduced to 'Polly.' We were shown around the purpose built, spotlessly clean, heated kennels, which includes an Assessment and Maternity block, and also introduced to some of the inmates and finally Polly herself. She immediately took to us and Kara, and had only been with us for a few days before she became one of the family. It is interesting to compare the two characters of the same breed of dog. Polly is a born leader, and



organises the whole household, whilst Kara is the quieter, softer natured lady.

After being with us for eight months, the time came for Polly to start her contribution to the G.D.B.A. She was sent back to the Breeding Centre for a brief 'honeymoon' and after three weeks came home to us to await the happy event. In due course the vet told us to expect five or six puppies and we then started to prepare the maternity ward in our garage. Eventually on Saturday 26th June signs of the impending birth became evident and at 9-00pm Polly produced her first pup. Having determined sex and weighed him, 1lb 11oz, we waited for the next, and we waited and waited. Midnight came and still no more puppies, so we decided to sit up in shifts, myself until 4-00am, and then Barbara the rest of the early hours. By 8-00am still no more puppies and although Polly had not been distressed we became a little concerned thinking there may be problems, so we rang the Breeding Centre for advice. They were surprised there was only one pup, but said this does happen occasionally, and advised us to get the vet in. This we did and after examining Polly said, "That's your lot, she is completely clean and in good health. So we had to settle for one, but he was a lovely pup and having an unlimited supply of milk for himself grew very fast!

After the pup had been examined by one of the supervisors from the Breeding Centre, we had a letter of confirmation saying they had named him Pedro and at the age of six weeks would collect him to start his training; ten months puppy walking and eight to nine months actual training for a Guide Dog.

It was rather a sad occasion when he left us, but Polly didn't seem to mind, she was anxious to get back to her routine and walks in the park. This is not the last we will hear of Pedro, because after he is fully trained, the Association will send us a photograph with his blind owner and, of course, we can keep in touch with them.

Of course we have had a serious talk with Polly and told her she must do better next time! and this will be around August 1983.

There are nearly 3,000 working Guide Dogs in Britain, and some 500 new dogs are trained each year. Almost half of these are replacements for existing Guide Dog owners.

The Guide Dogs for the Blind Association receives no financial help from the State, relying entirely on the many fund raising organisations throughout the country, and I feel very privileged to be just a small part of the Association.

JIM LAND

OUR CHILDREN'S PARTIES



OUTSIDE 'STAFFS' DINNER DANCE AT SUTTON COLDFIELD TOWN HALL



On Friday 10th December 1982 about 250 persons enjoyed an evening at Sutton Town Hall. There was an excellent buffet, mared only by the fact that there was a shortage of chips and patient personnel who waited until the end of the queue were given the option of two pieces of chicken and no chips. (I mention this only because I was requested to do so, and hopefully this problem will be rectified next year).



It was with apprehension mingled with guilt that I came to Green Lane on Saturday 8th January to help with the Mencap Party. The guilt deep-rooted in my past when twenty years ago my only son, Stephen, suffered severe brain damage due to Meningitis and sadly after six months illness died just after his first birthday. Had he survived, my life would have been much different and my involvement in the Mentally Handicapped cause—a long term association. but I—like so many others could, after my grief, forget and put behind me the heartbreak and lead a normal full life with two healthy robust girls and pretend once again life was beautiful and uncomplicated.

On my arrival I was surprised to discover so many eager helpers from our personnel and Bromwich Caterers that I nearly considered leaving, as it seemed a case of too many cooks spoiling the broth. Cliff Bateman buttered the sandwiches with such fervour and generosity that if he had been employed in a restaurant they would have been out of business in a matter of weeks.

Gradually our guests and their parents arrived and my apprehension disappeared for I had never met a more friendly and outgoing group of people.

Everyone seemed to know each other and one felt a part of one big happy family with no introductions necessary. There was no need to 'break the ice' at this party, everyone knew how to enjoy themselves.

'Paul Stuart, Magician Extraordinaire' arrived and delighted everyone by being so natural and wonderful with the children. He

MENCAP PARTY

called out to the children by name and performed tricks that seemed so obvious, that even the children thought they could see through them but when challenged by them, he baffled us all by surprising us with another magical result.

Vanessa a boisterous and eager young lady took bow after bow when she helped him with one trick and Philip, who put a £5 note donated by Barry Fox, Chairman of Walsall Mentally Handicapped into an envelope and set fire to it, apparently according to our Entertaining Magician, caused the trick to go wrong and I don't think that £5 was ever recovered.

All the time between his tricks he was with deft fingers manipulating long thin balloons into amazing shapes and handing out to the children, poodles, swans and Star Wars swords.

The tea was excellent and Sylvia (Restaurant Manageress) organised us all to laying out quite a spread.

The *Walsall Observer* and *Dispatch* Reporters chose to decide, just as everyone was seated, to try and arrange some of us into a group to photograph.

We managed to do this to satisfy them but Robert, a very alert Mongol boy was rather annoyed at missing some of his tea and told us he was fed up. I agreed with him, as I love my food also and would have objected strongly to being taken away from the table.

Santa Claus (Len Jackson) arrived soon after tea and to the delight of all made his descent from the roof. (Len I can assure you takes his task seriously and I'm sure he may end up a professional Santa Claus in some store in the future in his reclining years).

The presents were distributed either by Santa taking them to those confined to wheelchairs or handing them into the eager hands of those approached.

Sadly one present was overlooked at the bottom of the sack

but Mrs Ann Webb eventually realising it was missing retrieved it. Santa, who later heard of this, immediately wrote a beautiful letter to the young person concerned to apologise, blaming his great age for making him do such a silly thing.

A disco followed and a really wonderful time was had by all.

There are many just and equally worthy causes in the world and it is sad that our 'fishes and loaves' cannot be extended to them all.

CELIA TURNER



11th Jan 1972

Dear Mr Parks,

May I on behalf of my daughter and her friends say a very big 'thank you to you and all the kind people who organised and paid for the wonderful party you so generously gave us on Sat.

Thank you one and all, your kindness is greatly appreciated, and all the children had a happy time

Yours Sincerely
Dj Coleman

TERRY TRIUMPHS

TERRY FLYNN OF CHILCOTE PUMPING STATION IS THE LUCKY WINNER OF OUR 'TWO TICKETS TO PARIS' COMPETITION



Terry is seen here receiving his travel tickets from Steve Gouldby, Managing Director of *Overland Travel*, who so kindly donated the prizes.

Out of the numerous correct entries submitted TERRY FLYNN was the lucky man to be drawn out of the hat by Mr W. A. Markham.

I know he will enjoy his trip to Paris as all long week-ends previously organised by John Morrall have always been great successes.

I unfortunately will not be going this time but John tells me the response has been so good, he now has a waiting list for cancellations and a few more could almost make it possible to put on two coaches.

The correct answers to the quiz were as follows:

- 1—Arc De Triomphe Du Carousel.
- 2—Louis XIV.
- 3—Marsailles.
- 4—Cardinal Richlieui.

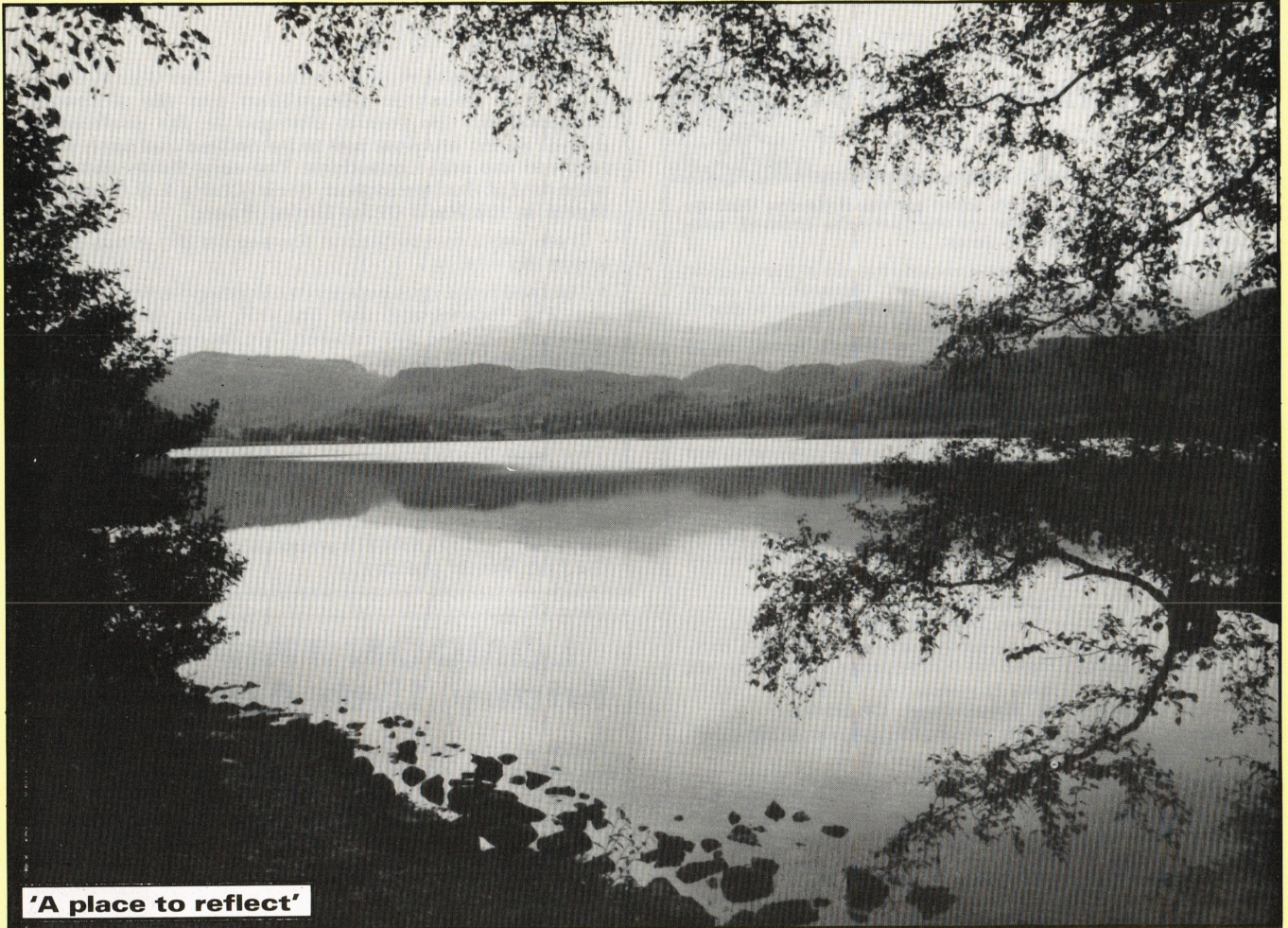
- 5—Entrance to Tuilleres gardens on the Place De La Concorde.
- 6—Lutetia.
- 7—300m.
- 8—Saint Augustine.

VIDEO TAPE COMPETITION WINNER

THE WINNER WAS MR HORAN OF TRANSPORT. HE HAD THE ONLY CORRECT ENTRY

The fifteen Video's were...

- 1—One Flew over the Cuckoo's nest.
- 2—The Boys from Brazil.
- 3—Time Bandits.
- 4—Every Which Way but Loose.
- 5—The Deer Hunter.
- 6—Close Encounters of the Third Kind.
- 7—Star Trek the Motion Picture.
- 8—Stir Crazy.
- 9—Alien.
- 10—A Bridge Too Far.
- 11—Monty Python's Life of Brian
- 12—Magic.
- 13—Dressed to Kill.
- 14—Chariots of Fire.
- 15—The Exorcist.



'A place to reflect'

Photographic Competition Results



Watery Grave

Choosing a winner for the photographic competition featured in the last edition was no easy task.

The theme of water was well covered, with approaches from all angles, humorous through to topical comment. It was a mixed bag as far as quality... some were obviously holiday snap shots, some taken by more serious amateurs with the intent to produce a picture of quality.

Before mentioning the winner, I would like to applaud the efforts of two near misses—John Biss from Fradley pressed the shutter spot on to capture the moment he titled 'Water works problem,' while in a more serious vein, Ellen Hodgetts from Tipton with her 'Watery Grave' produced not just a comment, but a pleasing view as well.

The winning entry, shown above, came from G. R. Evans of Dudley. Chosen for the care with which the picture had been composed and the quality of the print, this entry titled 'A Place to Reflect,' framed with the trees shows a sombre, peaceful scene that produced here in black and white will not do it the credit we have awarded it.

In closing, we would like to congratulate all those who entered into the spirit of the competition and say that we enjoyed looking at your efforts.

**Bill Goulden and Frank Smith
(Photodesk Photography Ltd) Wednesbury**

●WINNER G. R. EVANS OF DUDLEY

Receives a *Kodak* Disc Camera and the two runners-up each receive a free colour transparency film.



Water Works Problem

GARDEN CLUB Outings—1983

(Arranged by John Morrall and Betty Greenhall)

The time has come to think about our usual Garden Outings for the year, and listed below are the four visits planned, with brief details of each and the dates.

We have again been given a grant towards the cost of the transport from the Social Club, which I know is greatly appreciated by us all. Each of the visits will be on a Saturday and teas will be booked if possible for each outing. It was not necessary to have a ballot for seats last year, but again, an early return of application forms will be appreciated.

14th May Liverpool University Botanic Gardens, Ness, Wirral, Cheshire

Extensive displays of trees, shrubs, rock, terrace, herbaceous and water gardens. One of best known heather gardens in the country.

25th June Bowood House and Gardens, Calne, Wiltshire

In Spring, thousands of daffodils and bluebells, 50 acres of rhododendrons and azaleas. Roses in Summer. Park by *Capability Brown*. Terraced gardens, arboretum and lake.

10th September Luton Hoo, Bedfordshire

A magnificent country house set in a superb 1,500 acres park, landscaped by *Capability Brown*, lakes, rose garden and rock garden.

8th October Tatton Park, Knutsford, Cheshire

A stately home set in beautiful gardens and park, nature and village trails, sporting activities on lake.

More details will be forwarded in good time before each outing. This will be the ninth season of visits and John and I hope you will find the programme sufficiently attractive to join us again. We look forward to seeing you and hope we can keep up the good work started by Harold.

Here's to four more happy 'sunny' days during the year.
Betty Greenhall

THE QUIZ

This year due to restrictions in time, The Quiz took the form of a Knockout Competition and not a League Competition. The format changed in the preliminary rounds as the answers had to be written and each team received the same questions. The semi-finals and final were held at the Birmingham Social Club's A.G.M. on 2nd March in the Head Office Dining Room.

There was a free buffet and licensed bar and it was a very interesting evening.

The semi-finals were between the Building Section 'Clowns' and 'The Technocrats'; and 'The D.P. Nuts' and 'The Big Spenders'. The final was between 'The Technocrats' and 'The Big Spenders'. The winners were 'The Big Spenders' by the very small margin of two (19-21). In the next *Review* John Morrall will, in his own inimitable style, write more and there will be photographs.

As usual The Quiz was organised by John Morrall, South Staffordshire Waterworks own Bamber Gascoigne (Reading Rates of Pay). John spends a great deal of his own time compiling the questions and obviously benefits mentally from this research. OBVIOUSLY! It would be interesting to challenge The Quiz Master one day.

LONDON TRIP Friday 15th April

Another Day Trip to London is planned and this will leave Birmingham and Walsall early in the morning, departing London about 7-00pm in the evening. Approximate cost: **£4.00.**

Persons interested please contact CELIA TURNER.



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Outstanding value, in Mahogany and natural Pine finish. The highest quality German Quartz movement gives superb accuracy to within one second per day. A truly magnificent timepiece offered to you by *National Mayfair* at the unbeatable price of **£20.50.**

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A beautiful timepiece to grace any home. Specially commissioned by *National Mayfair* from the prestige *ESTYMA* organisation. **£13.00.**

Ambassador Socks

Five pairs of men's 100% mercerised Cotton Socks in five colours. 10½ sock (6-7 shoe), 11 sock (8-9½ shoe), 11½ sock (10-11 shoe). **£5.00.**

Ambassador Briefs

Five pairs of men's 100% Brushed Cotton Briefs—three sizes available—Small, Medium or Large. Attractively gift boxed. **£5.00.**

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All orders to:
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T. Smith—Head Office 219
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12-piece Knife Set with Sheffield Stainless Steel blades. Dishwasher safe permanently bonded moulded safety handles in presentation box. French Chef's Knife, Bread Knife, Butcher's Knife, Meat Cleaver, Freezer Knife, Cheese Knife, Carving Knife, Carving Fork, Cook's Knife, Cocktail Knife, Grapefruit Knife, Paring Knife. **£8.50.**

24-piece Cutlery Set

New item 'A' grade 30% Chrome Steel, 24 pieces of cutlery in the elegant *Dignity Rose* pattern. Our special introductory offer: **£6.50.**

Milk and Fry Pan Set

Special items from the *Cordon Bleu Kitchen* range. 7" Milk Pan and 9½" Frying Pan. Non-stick, high mirror polish finish. Aluminium. Was: £11.50, now **£5.25.**

Slow Cooker

The perfect cooking tool—cooks a complete family meal for around 2p. 5¼ pint capacity with free recipe book. Made to BSS.3456. **£17.50.**

Deep Fat Fryer

3-litre family size with thermostatic control and safety cut-off. Absorbs grease and minimises smells—made to BSS.3456 and it steams too. Exciting free recipe book included in our special winter sale price of **£23.75.**

Economy Kettle

The very latest in modern electric kettle design—more style—energy saving 2-litre capacity in superb complementary colours. **£9.50.**

Duvet Cover Set

Single size—normal price £14.95, now only **£12.50.**
Double size—normal price £19.95, now only **£17.50.**
King size—normal price £26.95, now only **£18.50.**

Duvet

Single size—normal price £19.95, now only **£15.50.**
Double size—normal price £29.95, now only **£20.75.**
King size—normal price £39.95, now only **£27.75.**

Thermal Underblanket

Single size—normal price £7.95, now only **£5.25.**
Double size—normal price £11.99, now only **£9.45.**
King size—normal price £13.95, now only **£10.50.**

Special value Duvet with 10.5 tog rating from one of Britain's leading manufacturers. Machine washable, 100% Cotton cover. Single size, Double size and King size.

MARATHON MAGIC



Three of our staff have been lucky enough to get places in the LONDON MARATHON.

ALAN LANDER, not deterred from entering even after his disastrous run last year; when sickness and pain dogged his every step.

ALAN EVERS, who previously ran under the name of 'D Mews' because a friend was unable to take part.

MARIE VEITCH our 'five-foot nothing Power-Pack' for whom the London Marathon will be a new experience. She will start at the red start among the VIRGINS—first-timers.

Our sporting 'three' are shown here wearing outfits donated by RON HILL SPORTS.

Many thanks to our sponsors...



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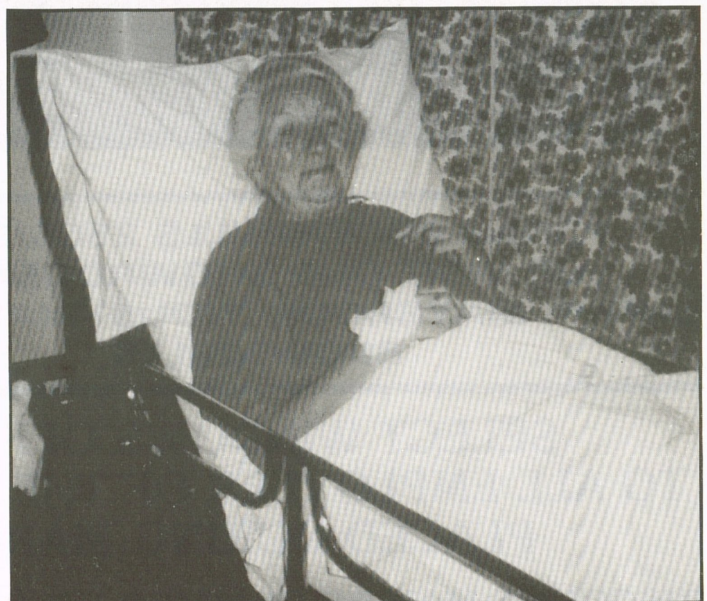
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GET WELL SOON

We were very disturbed to hear that Miss **MARGARET BRAWN** (Retired Secretary of Mr A. **TIBBENHAM**) had met with an accident; Miss Brawn was apparently hurt trying to get on a bus and sustained a broken leg and a severely grazed wrist.

Carol (nee Poole) Hodson received a call immediately it happened and Sid Leeke was able to rush Carol to the *Birmingham Accident Hospital (Ward C)* to see Miss Brawn. Although in her 80's, it can be seen from the photograph Sid was able to take of her as she was being wheeled into the Operating Theatre that this set back had not stopped her being able to produce a brave smile. Miss Brawn's main concern was to worry about her hat and Carol was able to assure her that she would look after it, and in fact, it is locked away in the Company's safe.

We all send our love and best wishes to this fine lady and we hope to see her soon back on her feet and visiting us again in the near future.



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10 yr.
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**SELECT WINDOWS OFFER A 10% DISCOUNT
TO ALL EMPLOYEES OF THE S.S.W.W. FOR ANY ORDER
PLACED DURING MARCH AND APRIL 1983
DISCOUNT MAY BE CLAIMED ON SETTLEMENT OF THE ACCOUNT.**



Information on Tap



HOW TO BOOST SAVINGS

DON'T neglect the Government's Home Loan scheme if you are saving for your first home.

After two years you qualify for a tax-free bonus of between £40 and £110 depending on how much you have in your account and provided you've had £300 in your savings account for a whole year before you apply.

If you've got at least £600 in your savings account (and have had £300 for the previous year) you will also qualify for an extra loan of £600. This is added to your mortgage and is interest free for five years.

To qualify you have to save with an institution which is part of the scheme. That includes banks, building societies, local authorities, National Savings Bank, the TSB's and National Giro Bank.

Even if you meet the savings requirements you won't qualify for the cash bonus or loan if the house you are buying costs more than price limits set by the Government.

These are: Greater London £29,100, South East (except Greater London) £26,000, South West £22,900, East Anglia £21,400, Northern £17,500, Yorkshire and Humberside £17,100, North West £19,000, East Midlands £18,400, West Midlands £19,500, Scotland £20,000, Wales £18,800 and Northern Ireland £21,500.

If you've had savings for the required period, thought you were in the scheme but didn't realise you had to sign up for the Home Loan scheme at the beginning. It's not too late.

You can make a 'late entry' application by completing Form HPA5 'Failure to Notify.' Ask the building society where you plan to get your loan for the form. Some banks are not lending participants in the Scheme.

GETTING MARRIED—HOW A BANK CAN HELP

BANKS and building societies might not be a particularly romantic lot, but some of their savings schemes are worth a look if you're planning to get married.

● Barclays Bank 'Getting Married' scheme offers cheaper personal loans, a 'guaranteed mortgage' of up to 95 per cent. of the valuation, 15 per cent. discount on BUPA subscriptions, free banking for your first year of married life and a free bottle of bubbly when you move in.

To qualify for a guaranteed mortgage of ten times your savings you must save at least £10 a month for a year; current interest rate of savings is 10½ per cent. (Interest added half year. Worth 7½ per cent. to the basic taxpayers).

You can apply to borrow up to £5,000 at 2 per cent. less than Barclay's normal personal loan rates (current rate 16.7 per cent.) three months before, or up to one year after, you buy your first home.

● You can also get a 'guaranteed mortgage' at NatWest, but have to save a minimum of £100 a month for 18 months to qualify. True interest rate on savings: 10.5 per cent. (worth 7.4 per cent. to basic taxpayers).

● First-time buyers who get a mortgage from one of the TSB branches in the South East region can choose to pay interest only on their loan for the first five years. They also get a free valuation report.

● The Bristol & West and Abbey National building societies knock ½ per cent. off the mortgage rate for first-time buyers, but only for the first year and only on loans under £15,000.

BANK CHARGES WHAT YOU PAY

	Minimum balance for free banking	Charges interest	Notional Interest
Barclays*	£10	15p for direct debits 28p for others	5%
Lloyds	£100	20p for Cashpoints, direct debits 27½p for others	5%
Midland★	£100	15p for Autobanks, direct debits 28p others	3%
NatWest	£100	16p for Service Tills, direct debits 29p for others	3%
TSB	£100	10p for Speedbank,	
TSB Scotland	Nil	15p others	None
Co-op	Nil	30p	None
National Girobank	Nil	30p, but only while you're overdrawn	None
Williams & Glyn's	Nil	10p for Cashline, direct debits and credits, standing orders 20p for cheques and cash paid in	3%
Yorkshire	Nil	18p	4½%
Bank of Scotland	£50	12p for direct debits, Autotellers 17p for others	4%
Clydesdale	Nil	12p for Autobanks, direct debits 17p for cheques 24p standing orders	4%
Royal Bank of Scotland	£50	12p for Cashline, direct debits 17p for cheques 20p for standing orders	3%

*From February 28.

★From March 5.

VISITORS FROM ABROAD

A party of students from the Department of Environment and Occupational Health at Aston University visited the Company on the 18th January 1983. Only four of the students were residents in the United Kingdom but others came from the following countries: Egypt, Hong Kong, Zimbabwe, Malaysia, Solomon Islands and Zambia. Names such as M. S. Tse, Ahmed Alminhali, Maggie Afi Krukrubo, Nasrin Zolfaghari, Nasaruddin Alias and Paul Daokalia were on the visiting list and are much easier to write than pronounce.

Their visit to South Staffordshire was connected with Health & Safety and they wished to see the manner in which the British approached this problem. It would seem from the smiling and friendly atmosphere that the group enjoyed a memorable and informative day, chaperoned by Mervyn Penny of the Safety Section.

NALGO NEWS

● The following were voted in at the AGM to form the Executive Committee:—

Chairman: J. P. N. Dunne Secretary: Mrs A. Gould
Treasurer: A. M. Phipps Welfare Secretary: P. Dodd
Education / Publicity Secretary: D. J. Harrison

Representatives:

T. A. Smith — Head Office
N. J. Beer — Central Office
A. C. Meadows — Central Office
J. Simpson — Tipton
R. D. Woodhouse — Central Office
D. N. Davies — Workshops
J. Harris — Water Treatment
G. P. Winfield — Northern Area

Mainly People...

MARRIAGE LINES



Some nine years ago Miss Carol Poole replaced Miss Anne Oakley as Secretary to the then Chief Engineer, Mr James Lamont. She has, with the various changes that have taken place in the top managerial structure, become top secretary to the Managing Director, Mr W. A. Markham. Those of us who know Carol have always found her to be friendly and helpful and it was with all our best wishes that she married Mr Robin Hodgson at Areley Parish Church at Stourport on Severn.

Only one sad event marred her happy day, for only a few weeks previously her father had died after a long painful illness and although it was a blessed relief to his suffering it made it no less a sad loss to Carol and her mother.

Because of this sad event, Carol decided to ask Mr W. A. Markham to give her away and I am sure Mr W. A. Markham accepted this request without hesitation. This was certainly an honour for him because, as he had only sons, it was an act he must never have anticipated he would be called on to perform.

Carol has told me the day was wonderful. She and her husband would like to convey to all, who contributed to her gifts, a warm THANK YOU.

I also would like to take this opportunity to wish them both long life, great happiness and most of all good health.

CELIA TURNER—Editor

Congratulations... MARRIAGES

FRANK BARLOW (Retired E.M.D.) to JEAN NOY on 22nd December 1982.

FRANK, a widower took Volunteers Severance and moved to Bournemouth. He took temporary accommodation with his son-in-law's mother, Mrs JEAN NOY. Obviously this was a successful and happy association and we wish them both all the very best for the future.

CAROL POOLE to ROBIN HOGSON on 11th December at Areley Parish Church, Stourport on Severn. (See separate write-up).

ANN JASPER (Financial Accts.) to ANTHONY FORD on 18th September 1982 at St. Margarets, Cradley Parish Church.

FORTHCOMING MARRIAGES

BRIAN GREENWOOD (Operations) to HELEN BEYNON (Operations) on 30th April 1983 at St. Margarets Church, Great Barr.

CHRISTINE HULL (Computers) to PAUL HARRIS (Site Manager) on Easter Saturday, 2nd April 1983.

ENGAGEMENTS

CAROL BREVITT (Walsall) to ANTHONY HOLMES ON Christmas Eve 1982.

Births...

To ALAN ROGERS (Walsall and his wife ANNE a baby boy PAUL STEPHEN (9lb 9½ oz) on 19-1-83. A baby brother for SARAH JANE.

To MICHAEL BROOME (Painter) and his wife MARGARET twins born on 25-10-82. A son PAUL NIGEL (6lb 8oz) and a daughter RACHEL MARY (4lb 15oz).

'DOUBLE TOP TWICE' (OR TAILS)

To JOHN TILLOTSON (Computers) and his wife SUSAN twins born on 8-1-83. A son JOHN CARL (5lb 8½ oz) and a daughter DONNA LOUISE (5lb 6½).



Retirements...

Many of our retiring personnel have given long service to the firm and all worthy of some notable reference. However, it is impossible for me, with limited news space to give credit to all concerned and I would beg their indulgence. I wish you all good health and happiness in your retirement.

Retirements	Retired on	Started with Company	Place of Employment before Retirement
D. W. Briston	25-11-82	21-9-66	Lichfield
W. H. Hatfield	31-12-82	14-8-44	Head Office
C. G. Felton	1-1-83	30-1-47	Lichfield
R. E. Ward	1-1-83	15-3-65	Laboratory
E. A. Gilbert	11-1-83	26-8-68	Cannock
A. Gould	21-1-83	1-4-68	Cannock
E. Cattell	25-2-83	18-8-48	Walsall

Deaths in Retirement...

Our sincere sympathy goes to all the families of our ex-employees in their grief. We endeavour to publish all known bereavements and regret any notification that has been or will be omitted owing to ignorance.

EX-EMPLOYEE	RETIRED ON	DIED
A. E. Paris	1-7-71	27-10-82
J. Vass	29-2-69	28-10-82
G. H. Eades	5-1-67	5-12-82
L. Stokes	19-4-69	19-12-82
C. R. Trueman	1-5-73	30-12-82

Mr L. B. STOKES

Len Stokes, former Area Superintendent at Walsall, died suddenly on the 19th December 1982 aged 72 years. Len who retired, due to ill health, in 1969 had joined the Company in 1925 and had completed 44 years service.

He started as a junior clerk and in 1940 when he was Chief Clerk, he was called upon to stand in for Mr E. F. Sutton (Area Superintendent) who was suffering from ill health.

A few months later Mr E. F. Sutton died and at 31 years of age Len became the Superintendent and held this position for a record 29 years.

Before the introduction of the Bonus Scheme in 1966, Walsall had a larger number of employees. Such characters as Len Lawrence, Ben Pedley, Jimmy (Mighty Atom) Jones, Knacker Haynes, Snowey Dawson, Placid Burnell, Jack McDougall and of course Botty and Len has now joined them all.

Mr Stokes was a gentleman—a quiet disciplinarian who insisted on the highest standards both in the Office and on the District. In his youth he wrote prose and short stories and later expected a high level of literacy in reports—to get one passed him to Head Office without editing was a rare event—our equivalent of a Pulitzer Prize.

He was Secretary of the Midlands AWO, a member of the Walsall Round Table and Probuc Club, Treasurer of the Walsall Cricket Club and Walsall Music Society, and in his retirement founded a Bowls Section of the Walsall Cricket Club.

Len Stokes will be remembered with respect and affection by all of those who had the privilege of serving under him.

R. ONIONS

Thank You...

Harold Hatfield wished me to pass on his warmest appreciation for all the good wishes, cards and gifts showered on him on the day of his retirement. He was overcome by all the kindness shown and more than appreciative of the fact that ex-colleagues, who had retired, made the effort to come into Head Office.

This recent photograph of Harold shows he is fit and well and that the photograph in our last issue did not do him justice.



ADVICE? -YOU NEED A FRIEND IN THE TRADE

You've a decorating job needs doing, You know it should be easy. But a few tips would come in handy – some help with colour matches and materials to make the job much more straightforward and the end result really satisfying.

SO WHY NOT DO WHAT THE TRADE DOES?

Come to us.

We've been advising and supplying the trade since 1854.

We've probably the widest range of wallcoverings, fabrics, matching co-ordinates and paints in the country.

The prices are right too. And most items are available ex-stock.

Simply walk in, look at your leisure and ask for advice.

With a choice of 4,000 wallcoverings, 1,000 fabrics and our massive range of paints, varnishes and specialised finishes, there's more than a chance you'll find what you want.



Dixons -FRIENDS IN THE TRADE.

S. J. Dixon & Son Limited, Old Birchills Wharf, Old Birchills, Walsall. Telephone: 647013

• A discount is available to all S.S.W.W. employees

It was the Americans who invented the sweatsuit, half a century ago, so that their boxers could get down to the right weight just before a match.

Now Guinness have authorised James Blackmore to create two stylish and unique versions of this classic outfit, in light blue or grey marl. They are only available from James Blackmore, direct by mail. You will not find them in any shops.

COMFORT AND STYLE. Our classic Guinness sweatsuits are designed both to look good and to feel good – just like Guinness itself.

The material (made in Britain) is a blend of 60 per cent cotton (for softness) and 40 per cent acrylic fibre – so that the suits will wear well and retain their shape after many outings.

CLASSIC SIMPLICITY. You'll feel equally at home in our sweatsuits whether you're running a mile or two or just buying a round or two. Each sweatsuit is cut in the classically simple traditional pattern that suits – and fits – both men and women.

EXCLUSIVE DESIGN. Each sweatsuit carries the authentic Guinness neck label to guarantee its exclusive design. The word "GUINNESS" is carefully flocked in red onto the chest, and there is a matching red stripe on each trouser leg.

There are two side pockets in the trousers for your wallet, stopwatch or whatever!



NEW. CLASSIC GUINNESS SWEATSUITS. HARDWORKING, FOR RUNNING AROUND IN; STYLISH ENOUGH FOR BUYING A ROUND IN. A COOL £19.99 (plus p&p).

SIMPLE SIZING. The details of the sizes are on the coupon. It is *not* possible to mix-and-match the tops and bottoms, for reasons of cost, but we have chosen the sizes with great care so that they should suit most people.

The leg length is easily adjusted for a comfortable fit as the bottom of each leg is elasticated to stretch to the ankle for longer legs or hang looser for shorter legs.

YOUR MONEY BACK: WITHOUT QUESTION. We want you to be delighted with your classic Guinness sweatsuit. So, if you are not satisfied, FOR ANY REASON AT ALL, send it back within 30 days and we will replace the sweatsuit or refund your money, as you instruct, *without question*.

HOW TO ORDER YOUR SWEATSUIT:

1. By Post. Complete the coupon opposite and post it to James Blackmore Ltd., Blackmore House, Farndon Road, Market Harborough, Leics LE16 9QE. If you have a daytime phone number, please give it in case we have any query about your order.

2. By Phone. To charge your sweatsuit to your ACCESS or any VISA card, dial 0858 64921, at any time, seven days a week. Please fill in the coupon before dialling as it will help you to read off the details and form a permanent record of your order.

Please post to: James Blackmore Ltd., Blackmore House, Farndon Road, Market Harborough, Leics LE16 9QE.

Please send me _____ (total number) of sweatsuits as indicated at £19.99 each plus one payment of £1.95 p&p for all the sweatsuits ordered. I enclose my cheque/PO for £ _____ (total value) made payable to James Blackmore Ltd.

OR charge my VISA ACCESS (tick one)

Card No: _____

Signature _____

Name (Mr/Mrs/Ms) _____

Address _____

Postcode _____

Daytime phone, if any _____

Please order promptly. Offer limited to supplies available and valid for UK addresses only. Allow up to 28 days for delivery. James Blackmore Ltd. Registered office: 394 King's Road, London SW10 0LN. Registered number: 1473776. The word "GUINNESS" is a registered trade mark.

FREE CATALOGUE. If you do not wish to order at the moment, but would like to receive a free copy of our latest catalogue please tick this box and fill in just your name and address on the coupon. SSWW/1.

The sweatsuits are available in four sizes as follows:

S	Chest/Bust Waist Inside Leg	34"-36" 26"-28" 28"-31"	L	Chest/Bust Waist Inside Leg	39"-41" 32"-35" 30"-33"
M	Chest/Bust Waist Inside Leg	36"-38" 29"-31" 29"-32"	XL	Chest/Bust Waist Inside Leg	42"-44" 36"-39" 31"-34"

NB. Trousers lengths can be described as being versatile as the elastic cuff can be moved up or down according to leg length.

	SIZES (SEE ABOVE)				Number ordered
	S	M	L	XL	
GREY MARL SWEATSUIT	11	12	13	14	
LIGHT BLUE MARL SWEATSUIT	21	22	23	24	
Total number ordered					
Number x £19.99 each					£
Plus p&p					£1.95
TOTAL VALUE					£

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