

PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION RESULTS



"HAYLEY GREEN PUMPING STATION"

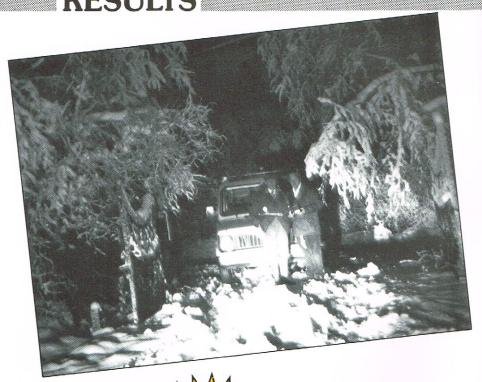
Cliff Jones and Paddy Dodds at the Pumping Station at 2.30 a.m. on January 28th when there was eight inches of snow.

JOHN BISS Water Treatment Section Fradley Pumping Station.





"THE BRONZE LADY"
TERRY McALLISTER
Administration Manager, Central
Office.





Valve operation at Somerford, January 1986. R.D. FOSTER Planning Dept. Unit.



R. DIXON Crumpwood P. Stn.



from the editor's desk . . .



An emergency situation which has arisen has necessitated in a number of personnel moving into Revenue for a required period of time on a temporary shift system.

As I am one of those included in this move, I must first apologise if the Review lacks some of the usual articles and doesn't seem up to standard, because I have been given a set limited period to collate it together and get it to the printers, secondly if there is a more than usual delay in producing the next Review, this again will be attributed to this emergency.

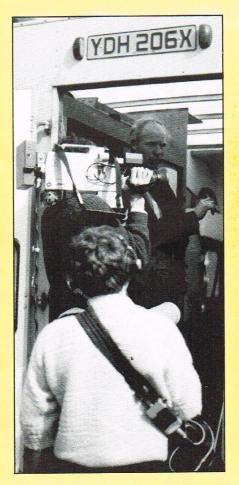
Hopefully it will not be delayed but I fear we must just wait and see.

Cecilia Tumer

Note . . .

I am pleased to announce that after attending the A.G.M. of The Association of Industrial Editors held at the Peugeot Talbot Co., on June 24th, I have been elected onto the Midland Area Committee.

Hopefully this will help improve my knowledge as an Editor.



CENTRAL TELEVISION

The South Staffordshire Waterworks Company is to feature in an educational programme for schools.

The programme will be transmitted in the Autumn Term. We see here the Camera Crews and Director at work.





Lower Brook House Fm, Birch Cross, Marchingham, Staffordshire ST14 8NU

I am only thirteen, but when I read your leaflet Dear Sir, about Water-Aid I was very touched. I had just washed my hair and I was getting a drink when I found it on my father's office table. I've always thought that my problems were endless, until I read your leaflet. Obviously I cannot send you a cheque, so I have sent 50p in cash.

If it is not possible to use this because it isn't a cheque, please keep the 50p yourself and write a cheque for 50p for me.

Yours faithfully, Janeine Neale.

I will try to send some money as often as I can afford (which is quite difficult for me, as I can't save the little money I have!) If this causes problems for you, please write to me and I won't send any more.

The **Fund Raising** Goes on . . .

JANEINE'S GENEROSITY



.500 DONATED

The leaflets that were sent out with the water bills that appealed to the generosity of young Janeine Neale proved, she was not alone in her caring for her fellow man, for the total donations so far received has been nearly £10,500. the donations vary from 50p to £300 from one resident of Dudley. Hopefully the Public's generosity will also stimulate our employees to give their support.

Please Fill In Form Below

WATER AID LOTTERY Please allot me * 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1 * units of 44p per pay as soon as possible.	
Name	Location
Signed	
* circle the number of units you would like.	
The 'LIVE AID' Show raised millions of pounds to help Africa a	nd many of you may have donated to their worthy cause.

Africa and many of you may have donated to their worthy cause. Water Aid is also one of the many smaller charities working towards the same goal.



WIAITIEIRI AIIIDI

Total Raised £1,413.00

So what is a Race Night? In addition to raising money for Water Aid, ours proved to be a most successful social

The idea is simple - Ten races are shown on film, the results of which are unknown. Guests are invited to study the names of horses, place their bets or become owner or trainer of

any of the runners.

Those who attended and received copies of the Race Card Programme must agree that Ron Perks had devised the most impressive names for the 8 runners in each race! Poor Ron had got up from his sick bed to act as MC for the evening and despite a raging temperature proved, as usual, to be more entertaining than most professional comedians, despite his derisive references to the great age of the Water Aid Chairperson.



Viv Webb - Director of Choice Personnel presenting a prize to Sue (Family friend of Mr.

Each race had been financially sponsored by various Company suppliers and Water Aid supporters.

i.e. Race 1 Swift Business Equipment Race 2 Midland Professional Cleaning

3 Highfield Bromage Race 4 Secure Force Race

Race 6 Micheal Clancy Plant Hire Race 7 NALGO

8 Choice Personnel 9 Bromwich Catering Race

Race 10 Pertemps Jobshop

Race 5 was sponsored by Mr. E. J. Thompson and gives good examples of Ron's genius at personalising horse names!

Chairman Edwin (of course)

1. Claiman.
2. Doctor Dave (son)
3. Helen of Oaken (wife and place of residence)
4. Fanny Tastic (daughter)
5. Emma's Choice (daughter)
6. Comp Elizabeth (daughter)

6. Queen Elizabeth (daughter)
7. The Brewer (self explanator)

7. The Brewer (self explanatory)
8. Unspoilt by Progress (Brewery motto)

Other generous donations from Seal Advertising and William Hill enabled us to supply prizes and gifts for winning owners/trainers.



Mrs. Carter and Stan Buggins (Highfield Bromage) presenting a prize to another lucky winner.

One of the most enjoyable aspects of the evening was the delicious food provided by Mark and Paul, Restaurant Proprietors of the Raj Mahal, Walsall and Days of the Raj, Birmingham. Even those who had never before sampled Indian food agreed that this was quite exceptional. Bromwich Catering donated plates, cutlery etc., and their staff volunteered to help with serving. The cost of providing 250 exotic meals must have been considerable and the Water Aid Committee were overwhelmed by the generosity of the Raj management and staff. While on the subject of workers, I must mention the Tote Clerks, Jaquie Lewis, Sheila Phipps, Terri Rea and Andrew Riley. These four must have



John McManus receiving a winners' prize from Mr. Morris of Professional Cleaning.

worked under more pressure than they could have ever believed, handling queues of reckless gamblers non stop all evening.

We were delighted to have among our guests Councillor and Mrs. B. D. John, Deputy Mayor and Lady of Walsall who, together with Mr. and Mrs. J. Carter helped provide amusement in our final auction of horses in the last race in the most lively and generous way - as indeed did all of our guests. We raised over £200 on the owners and trainers auction in the final race and considerable sums were returned as donations to Water Aid (without any pressure from the Committee members collecting the money, I must add!).



"Studying Form"

Finally, a tribute to our gallant W.A. Secretary, Mike Lewis who with son Matthew and Alan Lander had the unenviable task of working out odds and paying winners. I am sure that there could be no greater tension in the Stock Exchange than in Mike's corner of the restaurant that night! If you missed the event this time look out for a repeat in 1987, you won't regret it.

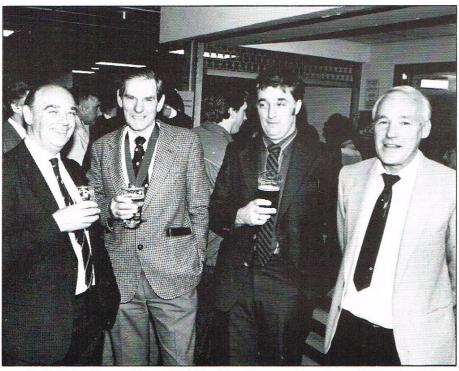
Thanks to everyone for continued support and anyone interested in Water Aid, especially monthly lottery or help, with organisation will be most welcome, especially those located outside Central Office.

Pat Rea Water Aid Chairperson

HOSTS TO

The Institute of Plumbing (Wolverhampton Branch)

Chairman Mr. Peter Curtis



Jim Carter (our Managing Director) and John Wilson enjoying a drink with two of the members of the Institute of Plumbers.

Close on a hundred people attended a recent meeting at the Walsall headquarters of the South Staffordshire Water Company. Mr. Keith Callear, Technical Officer for South Staffordshire Water presented a paper on "The New Model Water Byelaws" with a view to helping and informing local plumbers regarding the new national code from which water undertakings construct byelaws for preventing waste, undue consumption misuse or contamination of water supplied.

The last model was published in 1966 and is now considered technologically out of date. A new model, to be published in 1987 will take into account recent changes and progress in the industry.

Jim Carter, Managing Director said "It proved to be a useful interchange of information and we intend to stage similar events in the future."

AMERIICAN VIISITIORS

U.K./U.S. Seminar and International Water Management Conference



Dr. I. Fletcher shows the American visitors around the laboratories.

The Conference visited the Company's offices on Wednesday, 11th June, when they saw the company's mailing and cheque reconcilliation system, the control room, consumer complaints system, the work of the laboratory and Hi Tech/Low Dig. This was followed by a discussion on the similarity and contrasts between the U.S. and U.K. Water Industry.

After lunch, Mr. Giffard kindly showed the party around Chillington Hall and gave a fascinating insight into the role of a non-executive director of a water company.

This was followed by a visit to Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries, which consisted of a talk and video on brewing, together with a tour of the brewery. The Chairman generously provided dinner for the party.

BULGARIJAN VIJSIJIJOR



G.E.C. Telecommunications requested that our Company allow them to bring a Bulgarian Business official to see their Telecommunications in a

Vasil Vassilev, the Bulgarian Visitor is seen here with members of G.E.C.
Communications being shown a Company Map by Robin Comley of our Telecommunications
Department.

SPANISH VISITORS

FLUORIDATION — Visit by Spanish Water Engineers and Medical Officers on the 21st May

The West Midlands Regional Health Authority requested the Company to show its new fluoride installations to a group of visiting officials from Spain.

The purpose of their visit was to gain knowledge of fluoridation plants, pumps, pipe lines, supply systems, analytical methods and other main aspects in relation to the fluoridation of water supplied.

The Company arranged for them to visit a layer complex installation with a controller at Hampton Loade Treatment Works and a typical borehole site installation with a diluter at Churchill Pumping Station.

The design of a typical fluoride system and installation was explained to them (by BJW) and the plant installation at each site was inspected.

The installation at Hampton Loade Treatment Works is due to be commissioned in July 1986, and the installation at Churchill came onto stream during mid March 1986.

Judging by the information they required and their enthusiasm it was assumed that they found their visit interesting.



Tony Woodward explaining some of the equipment used in fluoridation to our Spanish guests.

B. Webster

RETIRED MEMBERS VISIT . . . 19th March



On March 19th this year, 135 retired members were welcomed back to the offices at Green Lane to see the progress made and to view the new office block.

Several members of the existing staff greeted them and gave out handouts and pamphlets of interest.

After assembling in the new restaurant area Mr. Carter gave a small speech afterwards the members were split into smaller groups, nine in all, to be taken by a company spokesman around the following areas . . .

Restaurant

Board Room

Personnel Offices

Reception

Cash Control

Control Office

Consumer Response Centre

Central Area of Open Plan Offices

Laboratories

Workshops

Stores

Finally, after arriving at the restaurant for a buffet tea, the assembly had a chance to catch up on news and events and to renew old acquaintances.



REVIEW

Malawi Visitors

Once again the Company are pleased to welcome visitors from the Blantyre Water Board for training in the U.K., undertaken within the Company and at external training establishments coupled with visits to manufacturers works.

Charles Liabunya is concentrating his studies in management and office services, together with administration. Alfred Harawa is attached to the Technical Services Department for his training in numerous aspects of civil engineering and project management. The third of our visitors is Thomas Chisale who is with us to extend his knowledge and experience in the repair and calibration of consumer water meters.

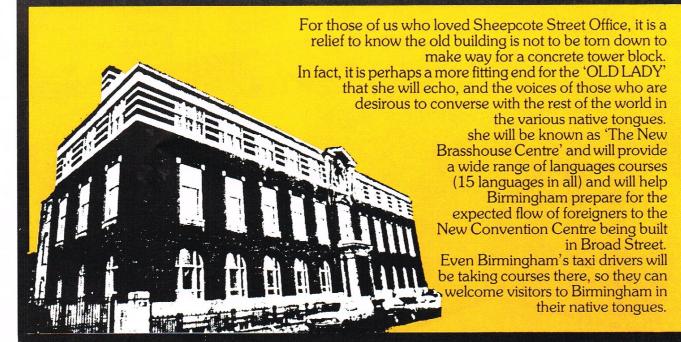
In addition to a very busy work programme, in the short period since arriving in England, they have managed to squeeze in some sightseeing. They have had the dubious pleasure of shopping in Birmingham on one of our rare hot summer Saturdays and whistlestop tours of London, Windsor, plus cathedrals, pubs with beer sampling for good measure. With additional attractions of the World Cup and Wimbledon on television during their time here it is hoped that their stay is not only helpful but also enjoyable.

David Coldicott



From left to right: Charles Liabunya, Thomas Chisale and Alfred Harawa.

THE OLD LADY HAS A NEW NAME



MALAWI - A GENTLE INTRODUCTION TO AFRICA



Not having set foot in Africa before, David Winders and myself departed from London's Heathrow in early May with our own private thoughts of what we would encounter during assignment with the Blantyre Water Board.

Although only there for three short weeks, our stay has left us with memories of a happy and beautiful country which will remain with us for the rest of our lives.

In reviewing the maintenance of the electrical and mechanical plant we had the opportunity to visit the majority of the Board's installations at pumping station's reservoirs. We were privileged to represent the Company at the Water Board's first public open day. With invited guests attending the opening address and a conducted tour in the morning, the Head Office, pumping and treatment works were open to the public in the afternoon. It was a very successful day with large numbers of the public taking a keen interest in the various displays and in particular the model of the main river intake and Treatment Works at Walker's Ferry.

The Malawian Minister of Transport and Communications, Mr. Edward Bwanali opened the event and commented that the function made the public aware of the processes that water went through. The Chairman of the Board, Mr. L. P. Chasowa confirmed that the purpose of the open day was principally to inform the public about the Board's work.

Whilst undertaking our work we were given every assistance possible from the friendly staff of the Board. In addition to the attention during working hours, we were well looked after socially.

The snapshots try to give some idea of the way of life and of the Board's work. It was indeed a gentle introduction to Africa.

David Coldicott

A young employee at home with his family.

A Malawian showing his skill at wood carving.

From a Stall to Stoke . . .

In 1976, during that long hot summer, that produced one of the worst droughts in our history, we took these first steps to communicate with the General Public and endeavoured to explain our purpose and to educate the man in the street about the complications and intricacies of providing pure clean water in their homes. We set up a stall in the local market place.

Following that successful exercise, Bill Markham (former Managing Director) and myself produced a Company Brochure giving information of South Staffs Waterworks service. This was received most favourably and stocks were exhausted within months of publication.

When in May 1984, Jim Carter became our new Managing Director, he obviously was eager to perpetuate this new policy.

Consumer Consultative Committees were set up as a result of the Water Act 1983, and although Privatisation may result in these committees being disbanded and formed as regional committees rather than local committees, their success has been most gratifying.

Seal Publications are now employed to ensure the media is informed of all interesting data regularly. They produced a second brochure handout and South Staffs Water has been publicised in newspapers almost weekly.

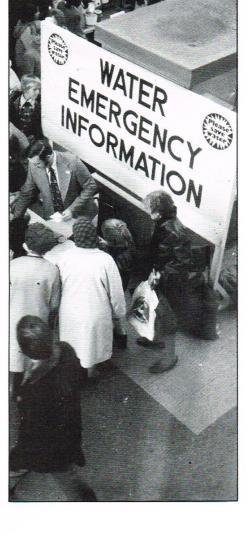
The decision to enter the Stoke Festival was a large step from the Market Place and the proposed T.V. screening of the Company during an educational

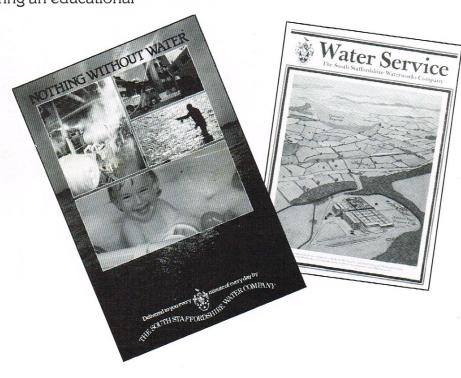
programme for schools is perhaps the ultimate achievement.

South Staffs is now 'BIG BUSINESS' having established success and administration in the Overseas Market as consultants and advisors in the field of **Pure** Water.

The world is our 'OYSTER' and it is up to us to go out and find the pearls.

Cecilia Turner





OUR GARDEN



Dave Millard, one of the supervisors of our stand from Caldmore Community.

Over the last 4 years, Etruria, a derelict area of Stoke-on-Trent, ravished by the pottery industry and the steel industry, has been transformed into a vast landscaped Garden Festival covering 180 acres.

The reclamation work which cost £9.3m was paid for by the DOE and the Festival construction work costing approximately £11.7m was shared approximately equally by:-

Department of the Environment (DOE) Staffordshire County Council Stoke-on-Trent City Council

The 80 Theme Gardens which were built by various sponsors are additional to the above costs.

With the Company's interest in voluntary demand management by our customers the idea of an educational theme garden entitled "Use Water Wiseley" was born and accepted enthusiastically by the Festival organisers.

The garden design was conceived by Jim Carter and Terry McAllister, assisted by Don Hillman and Tim Wedge. Francis Colella, the brother of Steve Colella, who is employed by the Festival Landscape Architects, Atkins Sheppard Fidler & Associates carried out the detailed design work.

The construction work was carried out by a team of men from the Caldmore Community Programme Agency, Walsall, who under the Directorship of Colin Birchill carry out community work using men who have on average been out of work for more than 12 months.

Allan Evers had the responsibility of co-ordinating the construction, obtaining all the materials at the most advantageous prices, and ad-libbing with the construction as it progressed to produce the balanced eye-catching feature that is proving so popular with the public.

Assistance from Geoff Denham setting out the site and agreeing the levels and from Alistair McKenzie's team of men from Blithfield providing hundreds of feet of large timber baulks and placing them in position to form the framework to the garden helped to transform a builders tip in to the garden you can see today in just 8 weeks.

The Royal Horticultural Society who have the adjacent plot to the Company's garden were most helpful in the design of



the garden and kindly provided the water loving herbaceous plants free of charge together with the stylish fencing at the corners and in return the Company provided all the RHS' timber requirements.

Most of the suppliers of materials, either gave them free of charge or at a substantial discount generously supporting the Company's theme, and the changing programme of bedding plants are being supplied free by Geo. Smith's Nurseries of Sutton Coldfield.

As construction progressed, a further 6 members of Caldmore CPA were being trained in Water Industry matters, horticultural matters and public Opinion Poll techniques to enable them to man the stand on a shift basis for the Company throughout the 6 months Festival from 1 May - 26 October, conducting opinion surveys on the following subjects:

1. Tasting . .

Comparing various types of treated water and bottled water with the Company's Lichfield Borehole water which may be used as the source of our own bottled water sometime in the future.

2. Service . . .

Seeking responses on the standards of service of various suppliers.

Water Purity.

Trying to determine the public's perception of what chemicals are added to water and the state of the local rivers and reservoirs.

Gardening

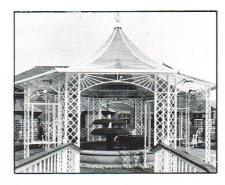
To assess people's attitudes and habits with regard to watering their gardens.

Looking into people's understanding of the present Water Industry and the proposals for the future.

The Royal Horticultural Society

On behalf of the RHS we are conducting a survey of people's perceptions of the RHS to assist them in their future marketing.

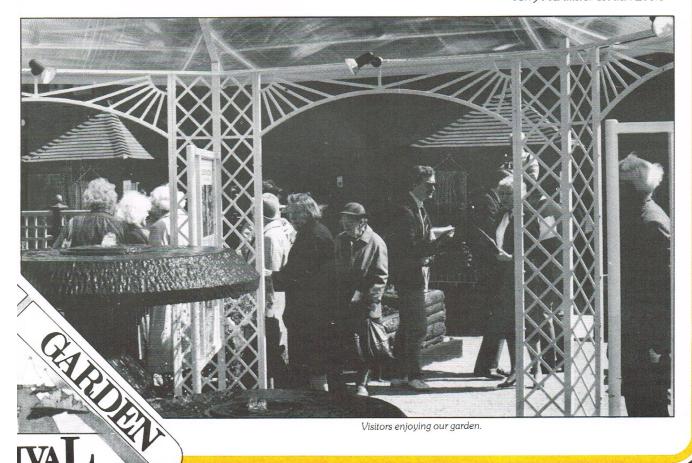
These surveys have proved most popular with the public, especially the water tasting days, and the wealth of information received will be analysed by computer programs developed in-house to produce meaningful statistics of benefit to the whole of the Water Industry.



Although this is the Company's first venture into educational garden construction, everyone was thrilled to hear that out of all of the Specialist Garden Group, the Company was one of 4 gardens to receive a gold medal, a deserving reward for superb team effort.

Do come and see the Festival which is proving very popular now that the better weather has arrived. The Company have provided coaches on three separate Saturdays during the show and John Morrall is taking the bookings if you require further details.

Terry McAllister & Alan Evers



SOCIAL CLUB NEWS



BANKS'S AND HANSON'S IN CONJUNCTION WITH HENRI WINTERMANS CRIBBAGE KNOCKOUT COMPETITION 1986-87 1st Prize £400 plus CRIBBAGE KNOCKOUT TROPHY Runners Up £200 plus a Shield Semi Finallets £100 per team £200 per team

Note: Banks & Hanson Knockout Competitions Pool & Crib. If you are interested contact R. Perks.



REG KIERLE NIGHT

When the notices went round advertising a night of entertainment with Reg Kierle most of our members said "Reg who?" and thought no more of it. Fortunately 110 members and guests chose to book for the night and were given a show to remember!

Having seen Reg perform on several ocassions it seemed prudent to point out that his act would not be suitable for 'Jackanory.' This would appear to have put some people off. Those who were need not have worried, (unless they were Buddist Monks), as Reg 'felt' his way round the audience and played to their sense of humour and level of acceptance.

His act, rather than a rehearsed set of jokes, was a cleverly put together series of 'observations on life'. These observations varied from the reasons for Indian gentlemen walking with a strange gait to the amorous attention paid to tweed trousers by randy dogs.

In each subject he raised during the act Reg, was devastatingly accurate in his observations and bought the most obvious facts to the attention of the audience (the members of which by now were crying with laughter). No detail escaped his attention like — "Why do Chinese take aways have counters 5'6" high, yet all Chinese are only 5'4" tall?"

In between all the hilarity Reg played the piano like George Melly and sang as good as Phil Harris. The evening attracted such classic songs as 'Froggy Went a Courting' (Ron Perks is still laughing at the stutter and twitch which accompanied the rendition) and 'Little Tommy Brown' (whose life story makes classic reading).

Members of the audience who had to have internal operations for chronic stomach ache included Pat Rea, Ron Perks and Mrs. Alan Lander (all without whom any comedian would be lost!).

It must be said that for 2 hours solid Reg captivated the audience without once needing a script or a sheet of music to help him. It was indeed a unique act from a unique person and one that the Social Club has booked again for Saturday 6th December (all new material). So don't be late in getting your tickets and join Reg for another evening of FUN.

John Morrall

FORTHCOMING CALENDAR

I OHITICOMINO CALLINDAN		
1986		
July 4th	American theme Disco and Barbeque	
July 5th	Stoke Garden Festival Trip	
July 20th	Gourmet Evening at The Days of Raj	
July 26th	Stoke Garden Festival Trip	
August 15th	Outing to Blackpool	
August 16th	Stoke Garden Festival Trip	
September 12th	Tates Games Evening (Manchester)	
September 19th	Old Time Musical Hall	
October 10th	Race Night	
October 16th	Quiz Night	
October 17th	Rhine Valley Trip	
November 1st	Fireworks Display Disco	
November 14th	New Tommy Mundon Show	
December 6th	Reg Kierle Show	
December 21st	Xmas Party and Disco	
December 22nd	Children's Party	

SOCIAL CLUB NEWS . . . THE QUIZ



Do you know in which year Einstein published his Special Theory of Relativity? Some of you will and some will not. Those that do, will consider it an easy question. Some of you will have a rough idea and consider it not so easy. Those of you who have never heard of Einstein will have great difficulty in guessing the answer, and may even consider it to be a trick question - wasn't he the manager of the Beatles?

In a desperate attempt to supplement his very limited knowledge on any subject other than sex, booze and curry, John Morrall has been organising a quiz since his early days at Head Office. At that time these events followed British tradition and were high brow and pretentious. Since then, being the enlightened fellow he is, John has widened the scope, and although still

decidedly conservative - with compulsory questions on the Bible and Royalty - he now includes more relevant and important subjects like pop music, films and television.

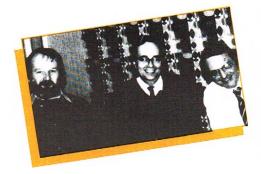
At the Social Club A.G.M. held in Central Office Canteen in February, the quiz following the formal business attracted the largest entry to date seventeen three men/women teams covering all departments at Green Lane. Teams endeavoured to be original and inventive in selecting names - the Buying Section called themselves 'The Three Quotes' and we had 'Sweet F.A.' from Financial Accounts.

John conducted the proceedings in an informal and good humoured manner, in turn having a go at Eddie Yapp, ethnic minorities, gays, lesbians, Eddie Yapp, fat women, thin women, Eddie Yapp, pool players, macho men, bald men, Andrew Scudamore, Ron Perks and Eddie Yapp. If you didn't get insulted, you were either dead or very inconsequential.

The quiz itself was a very exciting affair. There were ten rounds comprising single and blockbuster questions - name all the Egyptian labourers involved in the building of the pyramids - about 120 questions



The Winners . . . WHAM (Personnel Services Team) starts revising for next year.



(Previous winners THE TECHNOCRATS had to be content with joint second place).

in all. Despite my above criticism, there were a wide range of subjects, almost guaranteeing that anyone who knew something about anything would score some points. Just after the half way stage Alan Atkinson's team were favourites thanks to the unbelievable amount of totally useless cinematic trivia crammed into Pete Hopkins' nut - his whole youth was spent sneaking into the one and sixes of flea pits in the more unsalubrious suburbs Birmingham. Unfortunately for Sweet F.A. - who could just as properly been called the 'guzzlers' - it was a long hot contest and when the ale started to affect the senses, their scoring rate declined in inverse proportion to the number of empty glasses on the table.

It was only in the final round that the result was established, with the classy Personnel Services team winning in some style. This team included Mike 'Know-All' Kiely, Bill 'Smart-Arse' Hazelton and the more modest yours truly. Clive Kent was our trainer, first reserve/substitute, beer buyer and tick tacker of the answers from the back of the room that's why we got so many wrong!

There was a tie for the runner's up position between the usual winners, Robin Comley's team from Technical Services and Jim Grocock's Lab. team. In addition, the Chairman of the Social Club, Mr. Ronald Perks, presented a special award to Pat Rea, Jane Palmer and Pat Parry for trying hard without too much success.

It was an enjoyable three hours and I look forward to seeing you at the next quiz in October. It would be nice to see teams representing non-staff groups or even the C.M.T. - I wonder if Jim Carter knows this guy Einstein?

Alan Lander

RUGBY

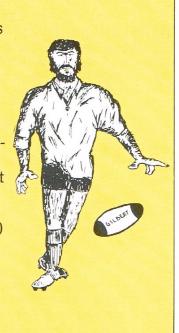
SOUTH STAFFS IN THE FINAL

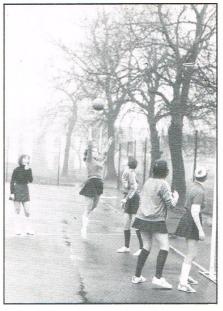
The South Staffordshire Waterworks Rugby team reached the final of the Lofthouse Cup in the first year of their existence only to find that things are tough at the top.

After a convincing win of 38-19 against Avon Division in the semi-finals spirits were very high. Unfortunately spirits were also high at Lower Severn and with a team boasting several county players and also internationals, scraped to a 64-0 victory.

We begin next season's campaign in September with a match against Walsall M.B.C. Come and have a look, your support would be appreciated.

D. Wrighton





N IF ANY LADIES ARE

INTERESTED IN FORMING

T ARE ALWAYS PLEASED TO

B ENCOURAGE SUCH A VENTURE AND IF YOU

MANAGE TO FIND

ENOUGH LADIES THEN

L CONTACT THE SOCIAL CLUB ABOUT POSSIBLE

L FINANCIAL SUPPORT.

ANGLING CLUB

S.S.W.Co. ANGLING CLUB ATTENTION ALL MEMBERS

Contest Dates for 1986

Saturday 21 June 2.30-5.30 Sunday 29 June 10.00-3.30 (with Tates)

Sunday 6 July 10.00-3.00 (with West Midland Civic Service Anglers) Sunday 27 July 8.30-12.30

Saturday 9 August 8.30-12.30 Sunday 7 September 8.30-12.30

Saturday 13 September 2.30-5.30

Sunday 28 September 9.00-3.30 (with S.T.W.A.) Saturday 18 October 8.30-12.30

Sunday 9 November 9.00-3.00 (Fur & Feather)

Top Prizes at all events

YOUR SUPPORT IS NEEDED!!

WATER INDUSTRY GAME FISHING CHAMPIONSHIP

In mid-March the gauntlet was thrown down by the Water Authorities for the Companies to form a team of 10 to compete in the National Flyfishing Championships.

Two Company people 'volunteered' to enter — Brian Mould from the carpenters shop and Martin Mottershead from Hampton Loade and with a little bit of financial help from the Social Club and brilliant organisation by Ernie Wright from Bristol, Brian and Martin took part in the Championship on Saturday 14th June. The venue, by courtesy of Thames Water Authority, was Farmoor Reservoir at Oxford and the team was captained by Geoff King from Mid Southern.

Our anglers reported an excellent day out, (or according to Mr. Mottershead, an excellent **weekend** out — say no more), even though the Water Companies team were not placed amongst the winners. In first place came Thames Water with a total aggregate weight of 87lbs 60z and a very close second were big brother, Severn Trent, with 86lb 13oz. In fact congratulations must be extended to the Severn-Trent team who had three out of four prizes in the Individual Championship with A. Wheeler having the biggest catch of the day of 26lb 4oz.

It is hoped that 1987 will bring better results for the Companies' team but meanwhile our congratulations to Brian and Martin for having taken part.

Jane Edwards



THE MARATHONERS 1986..



From left to right . . . John Lindley, Brian Williams, Alan Lander, Mike Killminster and Mike Lewis.

Marathon Runners: Mike Killminster Brian Williams

Brian Williams Mike Lewis John Lindley

Support Coach: Alan Lander

1986 has been a year of achievement for members of the running fraternity.

Super Vet Mike and Brian have completed no less than two marathons this year achieving respectable times of: Wolverhampton Marathon . . . Mike 3hrs 48mins, Brian 3hrs 45 mins. Derby Marathon . . . Mike 4hrs 8mins, Brian 3hrs 48mins.

Mike Lewis made his debut in the London Marathon in a credible time of 3hrs 29mins.

I finally achieved my ambition of sub three hours after six marathons with a time of 2hrs 57mins 6secs.

A total of £353 was raised for charities including:

Water Aid Save the Children and Invalid Children

Many thanks to all who contributed and I personally would like to thank all those who supported us in training, especially Alan Lander who gave encouragement during the cold winter months, when the going gets tough.

John Lindley

POOL LEAGUE

	LEAGUE TABLE	Points	Frame Diff.
1. Pa	aul Mitchell	17	28+
2. D	avid Downes	14	18+
3. G	ary Cotterill	14	16 +
4. A	drian Leadbetter	14	12 +
5. D	ennis Bishop	12	11 +
6. D	ean Carless	11	9+
	ugtar Singh		5+
8. P	ete Jackson		9+
9. A	drian Gabin	10	6÷
10. Jo	ohn Morrall	9	2
11. G	raham Hutchinson	8	-8
12. G	erald Smyth	8	 7
13. R	oy Billingham	7	_5
14. R	on Perks	6	_5
15. M	like Kiely	5	— 9
16. G	ary Hazelhurst	5	-13
17. N	like Crowe	4	-12
18. G	eoff Denham	3	-12
19. T	ony McCarthy	2	—2 0
20. Jo	ohn Anderton	. 1	-25

Paul Mitchell receives the winner's trophy.



Runner-up Dave Downes receiving his award.



Between October and June the hustlers of South Staffs battled it out on the green baize to become the pool champion of the company.

Good starts were made by Paul Mitchell, Gerald Smyth and yours truly by winning their first four matches. However, Gerald and I faltered midway through the competition whilst Paul went on to win the league without losing a match.

John Anderton and Tony McCarthy shared the responsibility of propping up the league throughout the competition. Tony finally found his form by beating Roy Billingham and John himself, leaving him at the bottom.

The top eight of the league qualify for a Pool Knockout starting shortly.

Sympathies must be extended to John Morrall on not being included in the elite eight because of the hooligan side of Gladys the cleaners character.

John and Pete Jackson were involved in an epic battle to win the vital first frame of their best of three contest. It was all on the black . . . John was at the table with a good chance of potting the ball and so winning the frame.

He was just about to take his shot when Gladys burst into the room and slammed fivers between the cue and object ball to pay for some boots she had bought off John's mate the week before. This obviously disturbed his concentration because after she was bundled out of the room and he tried the shot again, he missed it, leaving an easy shot for Pete to steal the frame.

Pete sportingly offered to play the frame again but John refused and has regretted his decision ever since as he lost the match by two frames to one.

Hard luck John, you will have to pay her more than Pete next time.

Gary Cotterill

SOCIAL CLUB'S RHINELAND COMPETITION



TO CELEBRATE OUR TENTH
TRIP ABROAD SINCE 1978,
IN CONJUNCTION WITH
TRAVEL AWAY LTD., WE ARE
OFFERING YOU THE
CHANCE TO WIN TWO FREE
PLACES.

QUESTIONS...

Answer correctly the questions below and enter in the draw for two free places to Rhineland.

- 1. On what river is the city of Reims situated?
- 2. Dom Perignon the inventor of champagne, lived in an abbey in which French village near Reims?
- 3. What was the original reason for the large pulleys found on the 16th and 17th century houses in Amsterdam?
- 4. What is the Dutch name for Amsterdam's official Royal Residence?
- 5. Blois is the capital of which French region?
- 6. What is the name of the Gothic Cathedral in the city of Orleans?
- 7. What is the name of the road tunnel which links the main city of Rotterdam to its Europort area?
- 8. Rotterdam boasts the first underground railway in Holland. In which year did it open?
- 9. Name the Steeplechase Racecourse which is to be found in the Bois de Boulogne, Paris?
- 10. Originally known as the Place Royale, this famous Parisian Square changed its name to what in 1972? (This is still the current name.)
- 11. Name the city with the largest population in the Rhineland?
- 12. Other than the label, what physical difference is there between the Moselle wine bottles and the Rhine wine bottles?

Name ..

Addres

Last date of entry, Friday, 29th August.

ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS ANSWER THE QUESTIONS . . . EACH QUESTION IS BASED ON ONE OF THE DESTINATIONS OF OUR PREVIOUS TRIPS AND INCLUDE PARIS, AMSTERDAM, REIMS, ROTTERDAM, THE LOIRE VALLEY AND GERMANY.

All answers in a sealed envelope to: JOHN MORRALL, PERSONNEL, MARKED: RHINELAND COMPETITION. (Last date of return is Friday, 29th August).

All correct answers will be entered in a draw to take place on

Rules of the Competition

- (i) At least one passenger must be either an employee of S.S.W.W. or a superannuated member of the company.
- (ii) Tickets cannot be exchanged for cash or any other item of value.
- (iii) Tickets are not transferable. Cancellations will result in loss of free places.
- (iv) The Organisers decision is final on all matters.
- (v) Entry is limited to current employees and Pensioners of S.S.W.W.
- (vi) Each entrant is entitled to one submission only.



IT'S A DOGS LIFE

by Sam

Hello folks. My name is Sam. I am 8 years old and I live with my folks, Tony, Janet and Darren Standford in a nice bungalow at the entrance to Tipton Area Office, where I help Tony run the stores. Every evening I take Tony for a nice "walkies" around the ground to patrol our domain and check everything is in order.

A few weeks ago when on "patrol" with Tony, I saw "him" that pesky interloper "the cat." With a loud cry, the chase was on. It was great fun dashing after "moggy." When I'm in full cry I'm afraid I don't heed Tony's order to come back. Would you?

Well I almost got him, but he ran under the steps to the recently built new offices (the temporary ones, once at central office), where there is a hole and a place to hide. Without fear I was in after him, tracking him down with my trusty nose to the ground. Funny thing, I never found him and lost myself in the black caverns under the floor boards. Silly me, I was in a mess and the further I crawled the worse it became. Trying to crawl under a beam I found I couldn't go

forward or back. I was firmly wedged by my neck.

Tony in the meantime searched everywhere but of course to no avail. He even called the R.S.P.C.A. and the police.

Time dragged on, and on, and on. The more I struggled the more wedged I became. It was dark and though I called out nobody heard me. I was hungry, thirsty and alone.

It was three nights and two days later. I managed another forlorn shout. Joy oh joy people were close outside.

"He's in here, get the carpenters, they're in the general office." said one. "I'll get Tony over" said 'tother.

Only a moment to wait now. with a scrape and a bang the side boarding by my head is removed and daylight is there after such a long time. Tony eases my head from under the beam and I'm at last safe in his arms. "Hi mate" I say. "Am I glad to see you again." I think Janet and Tony were also glad to see me too.

A welcome drink of milk and a nice cuddle from Tony, Janet and Darren, and everything was alright.

I'm still on the lookout for "that cat"



"NO TONY. I'M NOT GOING UNDER THERE AGAIN. IT'S TOO DARK"

but I don't think I'll follow him down that hole again. Would you?

Bye, bye . . . yours, Sam. (as told to Len Jackson an eye witness)

A 'Fergie' for us!

When our second puppy 'Wallis' left us to return to the Breeding Centre near Leamington Spa for assessment (either as a brood bitch or for Guide Dog training) we were told that there were no puppies at the moment, and with eighteen walkers waiting we knew it was likely to be a couple of months.

Home now seemed very quiet but still it gave me time to repair the holes in the lawn. (Wallis was quicker than any J.C.B. Digger).

After only three weeks we had a phone call from the Supervisor to say there was a puppy for us to collect in two days time (Friday 28th March) and it was going to be one of GOLDIE's puppies of the B.B.C 'Blue Peter' Programme, what an honour.

Thursday's edition of 'Blue Peter' was so exciting as we, along with

millions of viewers saw Derek Freeman, Manager of the Breeding and Puppy Walking Centre checking to see if the Golden Retriever puppies (now 7 weeks old) were acceptable as Guide Dogs for the Blind, but we could only guess at which one was going to be ours to 'puppy walk' for the next 10 months. Some 65,000 children had sent in names and the ones chosen were Amber, Bonnie, Bonzo, Bruno, Halley, Honey, Fergie and Snowy.

We collected, wait for it 'FERGIE' (maybe we'll get an invite to the wedding) a little bundle of fluff but with a mind of her own. Now after only two days it looks as if we've another J.C.B. in the making, poor old lawn.

There may be some photo sessions in London from time to



time, but whether Fergie will again appear on the television we will just have to wait and see. So life continues for the present (i.e. four hourly feeds and toilet training) with us needing eyes in the back of our head.

Alan Cartwright



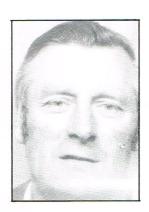
With thanks to Mrs. Whitehouse of cheslyn Hay, who kindly lent us this photograph.

Some sad news:-

Colin Bethell of Somerford Pumping Station, died on Wednesday 28th May 1986. He was a quiet man and many of you probably wouldn't even have heard his name. He had served in the Merchant Navy during the Second World War, joining before he was of an age to be called up. He came to South Staffs in 1949 and has been here ever since — 36 years of just getting on with his job. He died very suddenly of a heart attack, having had no record of sickness to my knowledge. Almost his last words were of concern about his job — he had returned home because he felt ill and he was worried because he had not finished his task.

All I can say is that he will be sadly missed by friends and colleagues.

Sheila Phipps



Bert Harry Round

Bert died on 12th February 1986, and in his passing we have lost one of the remaining colourful Waterworks characters. Stories about him are legend and would

require many pages to relate.

He was, of course, the most experienced working trunk mains ganger in the Company and during his 35 years' service was involved in the majority of our big mainlaying schemes and major emergencies. The work he undertook for the Company was of the highest quality, the standards of which were clearly demonstrated in the development of his beautiful bungalow.

He is survived by his wife, daughter and son, Bert, who continues the family tradition of service with the

Company.

Bob Wright

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.

been of will be offlitted owing to ignorance.			
Name	Position held	Retired	Died
W. Stanford	Clerical Asst., Tipton	1969	Jan. 1986
W.O. Freeman	Collector, Cannock	1957	Jan. 1986
N.S. Bannister	Collector, Dudley	1960	Jan. 1986
G. Dee	P.Stn Att., Shenstone	1974	Jan. 1986
C.E. Brown	Bricklayer, Cannock	1974	May 1986
D. Hall	P.Stn. Att., Slade Heath	1981	May 1986
E. Lancaster	Waterman, Tipton	1985	May 1986
F. Sawyer	Trunkmain Insp., Walsall	1977	May 1986

DEATHS IN RETIREMENT

DEATHS IN RETIREMENT			
Name	Position held	Employed on	Died
B.H. Round	Ganger, Tipton		Feb. 1986
J.E. Bethall	P.Stn., Att.	1,950	May 1986

WINNERS "NAME THE BOTTLE COMPETITION"



Morag Davies receiving her bottle of wine for her winning entry of "Springtime" from Peter Griffiths (Walsall).

Winners	Entry
1. Mrs. E. Poxon, 3 Buchanan Avenue, Walsall	"3 Spires"
2. Morag Davis, 35 Trevor Road, Pelsall	"Springtime"
3. Mrs. E. M. James, 135 Darley Avenue, Castle Bromwich	"Dr. Johnson's Water"
4. F. Hardey, 13A Oakenfields, Lichfield	"Cathedral Water"

"THE WINNER OF A WEEKEND IN PARIS COMPETITION" The Walkover Weekend

Alan Lander wrote an excellent reason as to why he liked going to Paris, it was as follows:

"I like going to Paris because the beauty and elegance of this romantic city creates a unique atmosphere, which never fails to surprise, stimulate and excite."

Without a doubt as we all know, Alan Lander is a connoisseur when it comes to writing prose, however as he was the only entrant to this competition he could have been illiterate and still have won.

Obviously, South Staffs personnel are either not struck on Paris or perhaps as there was only one week to get your entry in due to printing delays, this did not give the rest of you a chance to enter.



MARRIAGE

Elizabeth Kilminster (Enquiry Bureaux) to Brian Lancaster on 17th May, 1986 at 3pm at St. Nicholas Church, Elmdon, Solihull.



This photograph gives a slight deception because if you could see the lower half of it you would see that Liz was standing on a box because Brian, who is a Policeman is 6ft8" tall.

SAVE A LIFE

Mobile Blood Transfusion Service

TUESDAY 16th SEPTEMBER 1986

AT CENTRAL OFFICE

Contact Mike Kiely

Personnel Administration Section



KEN BIRCH — RETIRED APRIL 1986

Celia asked me to contribute a few lines in this issue to mark the recent early retirement of Ken, after the completion of almost 40 years service with the Company.

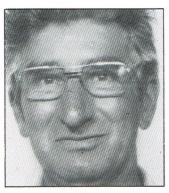
I think most people who meet Ken would agree on his outgoing personality and willingness to help when needed. Possibly, however, if meeting Ken it would be advisable not to approach certain subjects, one of which being "The War" as Ken never fails to give a complete account of his army days which he obviously relished.

Seriously though folks. Ken served during the war in the Royal Marines and saw action (or sorts) in Italy and the Middle East among other countries and he still has the photographs to prove it.

After being demobbed, he carried on his family tradition in joining the Company, following in his father's steps. His dad was stoker at Maple Brook Pumping Station for many years, and a cousin also worked for the Company some years ago.

Originally Ken worked with the mainlaying and service repair teams, later becoming assistant to Dave Bates as Waterman in the Gentleshaw and Rawnsely area.

I first met Ken before I started on the Company whilst working in his district as a plumber for the local Council. This was the first occasion of many when I enlisted his help.



Ken and I have actually worked together since 1965, during this time we became firm friends, enjoying the same interests outside work such as fishing, beer, darts, beer, dominoes, beer, cards, beer, beer and beer etc. In 1966 Ken became more mobile, transferring from a bike to a van and his district enlarged in line with the then bonus scheme. Over the years his knowledge became second to none and no problem was insurmountable, particularly in respect of Gentleshaw Reservoir which is more involved than most would realise. Ken became District Inspect or 2½ years ago and this was his position on his early retirement due to recent Company policy changes.

I still see Ken for our regular card school and am pleased to report he is enjoying every minute of extra leisure with gardening and DIY projects and many people are surprised to learn his age as he looks younger than his 61 years. (Not a bad age for a pig. Ken) (private joke).

So on your behalf I wish Ken a long and happy retirement.

George Clarke

ARTHUR E. SANGER — RETIRED 31st MARCH, 1986

Arthur was born and educated in Tipton. His father had worked for the Company since the late 20's as a driver (he drove the Company's first lony, which had solid tyres). His brother, Frank, also worked for the Company as a plumber for 12 years.

Arthur joined the Company at 15 shortly after leaving school. He started as a Waste Inspector, later moved to Halesowen as a Waterman and was appointed District Inspector in 1981. During the War years he did guard duties at the reservoir and volunteered to spend two weeks at Dover digging trenches. The biggest job he was associated with during his service, were the laying of the 24" main from Hayley Green to Langley and the 15" main from Hayley Green to Cradley Heath. He accepted Voluntary Severance and retired on 31st March, 1986, after 45 years service.

Married in 1948, he and his wife Doreen spent the first two years of married life living in a caravan before obtaining a house. Doreen still works as a book keeper/clerk. They have two children, two grandchildren, and a cockateel (a small crested parrot).

Arthur's interest in DIY is reflected around his bungalow and garden. In the garden he has built a beautiful water feature, which is home for 35 exotic Japanese Coi Carp, including five which he has bred.



He is also a talented self-taught musician, an interest which he has pursued on a semi-professional basis for many years. Currently he plays the organ in a club at Oldbury and the piano in a pub at Claverley. In his younger days he also played the saxaphone and played with many famous bands including the Joe Loss Orchestra at Dudley Town Hall. As a talented youngster he appeared on the radio show "Carol Lewis Discoveries."

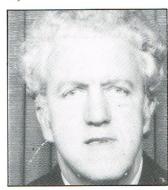
Arthur has no particular plans for retirement, but when his wife finishes work, he will seriously consider taking up an offer of medium term engagements playing the piano in a hotel in Salou in Spain.

KEN GRAY — RETIRED 31st MARCH, 1986

On the 31st March, 1986 Ken Gray took early retirement from the Company after 37 years service.

He commenced his career with the Company at Cannock in November 1948. With people like Tom Mayer (John's dad) and Teddy Borley, Ken soon found his way around to Seedy Mill and Blithfield Reservoir then under construction.

"What else did you do?" I enquired, "Slacking, no not that slacking, taking coal from a stock yard or barge to hungry boilers of Slade Heath, and by the way we loaded by hand and unloaded the same way."



December 1959 saw Ken at the new West Bromwich Booster with a young Dennis Borley. 140ft of brass pipe to clean weekly, plus mansion polishing the motors. It couldn't last, automation took over, well at least the pumps.

Transferred to Waterman duties at Darlaston he came under A. Reed, District Inspector then to Wednesbury. Rightly he became District Inspector for Walsall in 1981. Ken also served the manual staff as Shop Steward National Regional representative and Chairman of J.I.C.C.

I sum you up in the following way:-

You believe you understand what you think I said,

But I am not sure, you realise, that what you heard, is not what I meant.

Good luck Ken, you are great.

G. Blundy

RETIREMENTS...

	Started	Left
Mr. A. K. BIRCH (Northern Area).	19.8.1946	31.3.1986
Mr. A. E. SANGER (Tipton Area)	31.8.1941	31.3.1986
Mr. K. GRAY (Walsall Area)	8.11.1948	31.3.86
Mr. R. H. ALLT (Northern Area)	18.6.1962	31.3.1986
Mr. L. C. BRYAN (Eastern Source & Pumping Control)	11.4.1960	30.4.1986
Mr. N. J. WATSON (Eastern Group)	4.11.1963	31.5.1986
Mr. J. R. LAWLEY (Tipton)	7.4.1955	21.5.1986
Mr. D. MORRIS (Chelmarsh Reservoir)	22.5.1967	31.3.1986



Information on Tap



YOUR GUIDE TO HOME BUYING by

Alan Jones A.B.M.

Leeds Permanent Building Society, Walsall

Buying a house will probably be the biggest purchase of your life. It is essential that you obtain professional advice before you launch into action. **Steps to**

1. Start to save for your legal fees, valuation fees, and other moving expenses and also your deposit. Even though 100% mortgages are available it is more satisfying to put down a small deposit, usually 5% of the purchase price. A Building Society savings account is an ideal medium to save and your salary can also be credited to the same account.

2. Visit your local Building Society to assess your borrowing limits.

In general, Building Societies use a multiple of approximately 2.75 to 3 x the main gross income and the whole of a second salary. Beware not to always borrow the maximum, you have to pay it back.

3. Armed with the amount you can borrow you can now look at properties in a certain price range. If you visit a local Estate Agent he will give you information of properties in your price range.

4. The Property

Building Societies will grant mortgages on most types of residential property, if the property is fairly old you must beware of improvements that may be necessary to bring the property into mortgageable condition, electrical rewiring and the damp proof course are the most common requirements and

these two items can sometimes cost in the region of £1,000.

Diagram

After seeing the Building Society to assess your borrowing capability the basic mortgage procedure is as follows:

PROPERTY FOUND

DEPOSIT (£100)

(to show that you are an interested party - this is refundable if property is not purchased)

MORTGAGE APPLICATION MADE

(2 stages)



Building Society writes to employer (or existing Building Society)

When both of these are

(2) VALUATION

A valuation fee is collected so that the surveyor can inspect property

concluded satisfactorily Building Society can issue its mortgage offer. (This means that you now have the mortgage in writing). From the time you make your application until the time you receive your written mortgage offer can be about two weeks. An immediate decision will be given at the interview stage.

After this the applicant's Solicitor will arrange the legal aspects of the transaction and completion will be arranged accordingly.

What type of mortgage should I have?

Until recently the low cost endowment has been slightly more expensive but today it has become very competitive.

E.g. Male 30 nb, Female 27 nb £20,000 mortgage over 25 years.

Low Cost

The low cost endowment has benefits of life cover, fixed premiums, portability when moving house and a tax free lump sum. The disadvantage is that the term is a fixed contract and early surrender will not benefit the applicant. It is now however, by far the most popular form of mortgage.

Buildings and Contents Insurance

Because the property is mortgaged, the Building Society has a vested interest. It is concerned that it is adequately insured and the Surveyor will ensure that a figure for replacement value is made on inspection of the property.

Contents cover can now be included with the Leeds through its Leedsure cover and a new accident, sickness and unemployment protection can also be included.

By caring for these aspects all borrowers can obtain peace of mind in what can be the biggest commitment of their lives.





South Staffordshire Waterworks Company



EXHAUSTS

UP TO 50%OFF M.R.R.P.



CLUTCHES

UP TO £20 OFF NORMAL PRICES - POPULAR MODELS



BRAKES

15%OFF FITTED PARTS -

FREE CHECK



15%OFF FITTED PARTS

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