

## UP THE SAINTS!



Ten days before the F.A. Cup final, the ACTS 'Saints' camp was confident — as this picture shows. Only the 'score card' was TOO optimistic.

### Now Ben goes for oil

INTO service at the end of the year will come a ship unlike any other with which Ben Line, one of the ACT partners, has ever been associated.

Launched early in 1976, Ben Ocean Lancer has been designed as one of the most advanced and sophisticated oil drill ships in the world.

She is equipped to drill in water depths as great as 3,000ft, and one of her features is her ability to maintain a precise position during drilling operations in depths where anchoring is impossible.

'Lancer' is one of two vessels in the armoury of Ben Odeco Ltd., an offshore drilling contractor set up as a joint venture by BLOC and

*Continued on page 8*

## Three top ACTS regional men on the move

SOME of the top men in ACTS have been on the move since the last issue of 'Contacts'...

John Farrar, for instance, who had been regional manager at Barking since 1973, has moved to Richmond House headquarters at Southampton to become Assistant Operations Manager (Cargo and Depots).

John first went to sea as a boy, gained his Master's Certificate, and joined ACTS in 1969 as Cargo Superintendent at Birmingham. Two years later he became Terminal Manager at Southampton.

John and his wife Jean live at Romsey, Hants.

### HOME BREWING

He is succeeded at Barking by Eric Russell, who was Southampton Terminal Manager for two-and-a-half years. Eric joined ACTS six years ago, after 17 years with associated companies. At one time he was Chief Officer with Ellerman Lines and subsequently served, as Cargo Superintendent at Liverpool, and London Head Office. He lists his hobbies as gardening, do-it-yourself and brewing.



John Farrar Eric Russell David Parsons

Taking over as Southampton Terminal Manager is David Parsons, who was Deputy Regional Manager at Birmingham. Before taking up his new duties he will have a three-month management course.

After serving 12 years with Port Line, from cadet to Chief Officer, David joined ACTS in 1970 as an Operations Assistant at Head Office. A year later he moved to Manchester, first as Assistant Cargo Superintendent and then as Cargo Superintendent. In 1973, he went back to Head Office as Cargo Handling Officer. Later he became Deputy Regional Manager in the Midlands.





Pat Joyce — ten years with ACTS; hobbies — music and walking.

# ON XMAS SAFARI WITH SOTON PAT

IT SEEMED strange that while the Christmas festivities were getting under way in Britain, I should be enjoying a wonderful feast of wildlife in two of Kenya's many game parks, writes Pat Joyce.

## Ted takes over from Ian at Seaforth

IAN JARRETT, who has been Deputy Terminal Manager at Seaforth, is now Deputy Regional Manager at Manchester. The promotion came after four years with the company.



Ian Jarrett

Ian and his wife Lynda live with their two children at Liverpool, and in addition to 'tamer' things like football, rally-driving and gardening, he lists 'big game hunting on safari' as one of his hobbies.

### Sportsman

He is succeeded as Seaforth's Deputy Terminal Manager by Ted Clayton, who was Cargo Superintendent at Southampton Terminal.

Three years with the company, Ted is also married with two children, plays squash, badminton and golf "when time permits" and is a do-it-yourself enthusiast.



Ted Clayton

## FIVE-YEAR CHAMPS IN ACTION

The dramatic picture below shows Australia's 1971-2-3-4-5 motorcycle champions — Stan and Mike Baylis — in action.

Why do we print it? Because Stan and Mike, sensible fellows that they are, chose ACT and 'Australian Exporter' to bring over their machines so they could race in Britain.



Holidaying with my sister and her husband in the Kenyan capital of Nairobi, we made an early start for our first destination, the Meru National Park some 160 miles North. We had not been in the Park itself for more than ten minutes when we sighted our first big game. And BIG is the operative word — five or six elephants taking a leisurely stroll through the bush, seemingly quite oblivious of our presence.

The elephant is a really huge animal — even when seen on the silver screen or at a zoo. But seen in the flesh, towering above bush and trees, he is a gigantic, breath-taking sight indeed. It is just like coming up against the side of a large house!

From then until we reached the confines of the Mulaika Lodge, in which we were to stay overnight, it was one long succession of wildlife — zebra, giraffe, baboon, velvet monkey (smaller and prettier than the baboon), water buck, impala and Thomson gazelle, the last among the world's most graceful creatures.

### 'ENEMY' CONFUSED

Centrepiece for me was the smallest and prettiest of the buck family, the dikdik. Tiny (and therefore vulnerable), the dikdik just never stays long on one spot, continually dafting hither and thither to confuse the 'enemy'. Even when fully grown the dikdik is no larger than an average domestic dog.

After a night at the Lodge, an early swim and a big breakfast, we set off for the Samburu Game Reserve, some 50 miles further North.

On arrival at Samburu Lodge we were greeted by a gathering of little velvet monkeys playing along the verandas of the rooms. We were advised not to let them into our rooms because they would pinch anything on which they could lay their tiny hands!

We had been told that in the nearby Uaso Nyiro River we might see crocodiles, but we hardly expected to see them within seconds of arrival at the river bank. These scaly creatures were enjoying their evening meal of raw meat provided by the owners of the Lodge — and were less than six feet away as we sipped our pre-prandial beer behind the safety of a low brick wall. Food for the crocodiles



'Like coming up against the side of a house.'

was placed near the wall, under an arclight, and one by one they crawled lazily out of the river to have their fill. Satisfied, they lay there in full view — and had a nap!

### JUNGLE BEASTS

Out in the park at sunrise next morning, it was as though all the animals had been snatched away in the night. Everything was still, and hardly an animal or bird could be seen.

We were beginning to despair of any further sights until my brother-in-law, who has eyes like a hawk, manoeuvred his car to a vantage point from which we had a superb, unobstructed and really breath-taking view of two of the greatest beasts of the jungle — two lionesses.

### LAZY HUSBANDS

These magnificent animals had not only done their usual chore of hunting and catching the meal, but judging by the size of their stomachs, had on this occasion eaten it, too, without giving any to their lazy husbands.

It struck me as a terrific boost for women's lib — and a memorable end to the safari.



# THIS IS A PAL IN A MILLION!

By DENNIS PAVEY  
(Operations, Richmond House)



AS a change from ancient, but doubtless venerable, motor cars (about which two correspondents have already written in 'Contacts'), readers might like to hear about a different sort of vehicle — G-APAL, an interesting little aeroplane of which for some years I was a proud part-owner.

Three of this team were pilots, two were parachutists — and I was the mechanic.

At that time we kept our little plane at Old Warden, a small airfield near Biggleswade, home of the Shuttleworth collection of old aircraft.

As mechanic, it was my job to ensure that G-APAL was airworthy. That may sound easy; but anybody who has had to syphon petrol from a 45-gallon drum into two-gallon cans, later climbing on top of the engine cowling to pour the fuel into a funnel lined with a chamois leather filter, will realise that ease had nothing to do with it!

I also had to remove the door every time it was used for parachute jumping, and, of course, start the Gypsy Major engine by hand-swinging the propeller. A dicey job indeed on wet grass.

Although it was hard work, we had a lot of fun and, I believe, gave great pleasure to hundreds by giving joy rides and displays at airshows. Our activities also gave, in a very practical way, aircraft instruction to a group of teenage girls of the Local Girls' Venture Corps unit, of which my wife was commanding officer.

Alas, one winter afternoon, PAL caught its wheels in high tension wires when trying to make a trick landing. The pilot walked away with bruises only, but a village was blacked out and dear old PAL suffered a broken back.

However, all good stories (I am glad to say) have a happy ending. I recently heard that PAL may fly again — as a Tiger Moth! You can't keep a good plane down. . . .

## Larry of the 6th is off to New Zealand

MRS. PATRICIA COCKEL, three-and-a-half years with ACTS and an Accounts Clerk at Barking, is a proud mum. And understandably so. What mother wouldn't be proud when her 16-year-old son is booked to leave England on July 24 for a six-week Rugby Union tour of New Zealand, with a game against the All-Black juniors as the star fixture?

cluding Mrs. Cockel — set up a fund-raising committee. They decided that each boy (and his parents) should contribute £300 towards the total cost of more than £12,000, and that the rest of the money must be raised by a combined effort.

"It's been hard work, but we're nearly there," says Mrs. Cockel. "We've organised jazz concerts, once-a-month discos, jumble sales and fetes."



Mum...

Young Larry Cockel is one of a team of rugby-mad youngsters in the sixth form team at Langdon Comprehensive School, East Ham. The idea for the trip to New Zealand came from teacher Adrian Crawley, master-in-charge of rugby at the school.

Parents of the boys involved — in-



and Larry

Compared with a certain Bentley and Clyno this little aircraft is a 'youngster.' Born in 1938 as a Tiger Moth, it joined 81 Squadron RAF with the number N6847 and saw service in France during the hectic days of 1940.

G-APAL was 'demobbed' by the RAF in the 50's and ended up at Thruxton, where some enthusiast performed major surgery which converted the two-seat open cockpit into a four-seat enclosed cabin, and the aircraft was re-christened 'Jackaroo' — the Australian for Jack-of-all-Trades.

At about this time, the flying club at Stevenage was looking for a plane that could be used for parachute-dropping. Six of us put up £200 each to become the proud owners of G-APAL.



Denis Pavey

## Pat and John win the Barking fight on flab

TERRY WOGAN is no longer having it all his own way when it comes to the fight on flab. They've been having a go at ACTS Barking, where overweight has been an increasing problem for quite a few people.

Thanks to the setting-up of a Slimming Club, things are looking up and weights are going down.

By losing 11 lb and 8 lb respectively over a four-week period, Pat Skelton and John O'Brien were recently nominated Slimmer of the Month and Man of the Month.

Their prizes? A gift voucher each from members of the club whose efforts were not so good!



Flab champs Pat and John



## Weddings in Scotland and the Midlands make happy page 4 news



# BELLE BELLS

OR SHOULD ONE say bell belles? Whichever way you look at it, the ringing of wedding bells enabled 'Contacts' to get two pictures of once-in-a-lifetime happiness.

ON THE LEFT: Seventeen-year-old Margaret Kennedy, punch operator at Birmingham, after her marriage to 20-year-old electrician Derek Jones.

ON THE RIGHT: Staff nurse Angela Park in tiara and white high-necked satin dress she wore for her wedding at Coatbridge to commercial assistant David Anderson. David's hobbies — watching and playing football and rugby.



## Why Basildon Janet does a quick change

BASILDON'S Janet ('Jano') Roast does a 'quick change' act most evenings when she leaves her job in the Export Department.



Janet Roast

Donning slacks and a pair of gloves she hurries to any promising Victorian 'dump' in the area, to add to her collection of Victoriana.

Treasure hunter Jano specialises in Victorian bottles, many of which are not only attractive but also valuable.

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'People who like jazz are happy and un-

complicated', according to Bob Howest, of ACTA Marketing Department. Bob (right) also says that playing with his 'Georgia Jazzmen' is a splendid way to relax.

### Coming and going

Welcome to Yoga enthusiast Mrs. Margaret Lockheart, who has joined Credit Control. Mrs. Lockheart has one son.

And farewell to Eileen Temme, who has left Credit Control to take over management of a pub.

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Two of Basildon's Table Tennis Club, Sid Hecker and Slim Jim 'Porkey' Mann reached the finals of the Blue Star competition.

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Basildon Sports and Social Club election results: Mrs. Jocelyn Rees re-elected Chairman; Mrs. Linda Aston, secretary; Mrs.

## quick change



Bob Howest

Glenise Mealing, treasurer; and Miss Sheila Eggington, Mrs. Linda Marr and Mr. Ian Turner (re-elected) all on the committee.



Margaret Lockheart



Eileen Temme

## Please, sir, it wasn't my fault...

OUR BASILDON correspondent (in whom we have implicit faith) assures us that the following are genuine excerpts from letters of claim sent to insurance companies:

1. I knocked a man over. He admitted it was his fault as he had been run over before.
2. To avoid a collision, I ran into the other car.
3. A pedestrian hit me and went under my car.
4. I ran into a shop window and sustained injuries to my wife.
5. Coming home, I drove into the wrong house and collided with a tree I haven't got.
6. I blew my horn but it would not work as it was stolen.
7. I consider that neither vehicle was to blame, but if either were to blame it was the other one.
8. The other man altered his mind, so I had to run him over.

### HOW MANY WORDS?

How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters contained in the word

### CONTAINER

Use each letter once only each time. Prize of £2 for the longest list sent to **Jan Chandler, Personnel, Southampton, BEFORE JULY 31, 1976.** Editor's decision final.



# IT'S LIKE GOING 36 TIMES ROUND THE WORLD!



By **BRUCE CONCHIE**

(Deputy Operations Manager, Southampton)

WHEN PETER YARWOOD referred, in a recent issue of 'Contacts', to 'the impressive size of our business', he produced remarkable figures to support his claim. I suppose it is natural for many people — particularly those outside our company — immediately to think in terms of giant container-ships and lengthy sea voyages when such impressive cargo figures are bandied around.

But the containership, essential link though it is in a through transport system, is not the whole story. It is also on land, at the Terminals and Containerbases, that Road and Rail Transport and cargo handling gives true meaning to the concept of through-transportation of containers.

To achieve this it is vital that the loading and unloading of cargo, and its transport to and from customers' doorsteps is geared to match the quick turnround schedules of the ships.

This 'servicing' of ships must be done smoothly and efficiently if sea schedules are to be maintained.

## HUGE OPERATION

ACTS is now one of the largest transport contractors in Britain, covering a territory from Land's End to John o'Groats, and from Genoa to Gothenburg.

Something like £6½ million will be spent on inland transport this year — enough to pay for a two-week holiday in Majorca for 67,000 people!

This huge operation is carried out on British and Continental railway systems and by intensive use of road transport. ACT now operates a permanent fleet of 151 vehicles and 1,400 semi-trailers from nine operating centres . . . a far cry from the small beginning only six years ago when the Australian trade was first containerised.

At that time, the company operated only a handful of vehicles and 116 trailers. Our vehi-

containers by rail on long-distance movements.

To-day, ACT is poised for a further leap forward with the advent of, first, the Caribbean trade this year and the South African trade next.

Within Britain itself, the operation can be divided into two fairly distinct sections. Firstly a collection and delivery service based on regional offices, and, secondly, a trunking operation between bases and ports.

The local collection and delivery operation is the shop window, where direct contact is made with customers. Much of the Company's image and success in obtaining transport business depends on providing a speedy, efficient service carried out by courteous and helpful operating staff and drivers.

## 900,000 MILES A YEAR

The rail trunk movements in this country are predominately carried out by Freightliners. In conjunction with OCL, ACTS operates its own major network of train services based on Southampton. Forty-two round trips a week take place to major distribution points, providing space for 53,000 containers a year. These trains travel 900,000 miles annually (equal to 36 times round the world) and the ACTS share of the cost is about £1.3 million. In addition to this major contract, the first of its type in Britain, extensive use is also made of the domestic Freightliner services on which the company spends another £500,000 a year.

ACTS can justifiably claim to be a major international haulier as one quarter of all transport operations take place on the Continent. Here again, extensive use is made of both road and rail. A fleet of ACTS vehicles and trailers is based in Rotterdam, and there are regular arrangements with several major hauliers in many other areas. The services of ten national railway systems are used, mainly through the co-ordination of Intercontainer in Basle. Total transport costs on the Continent amount to £1½ million a year.

## OPEN MARKET

Main users of the transport services provided are, of course, ACTA and BLC, but they are by no means the only ones. The company is free to compete on the open market and did so to the extent of getting business worth £150,000 during 1975.

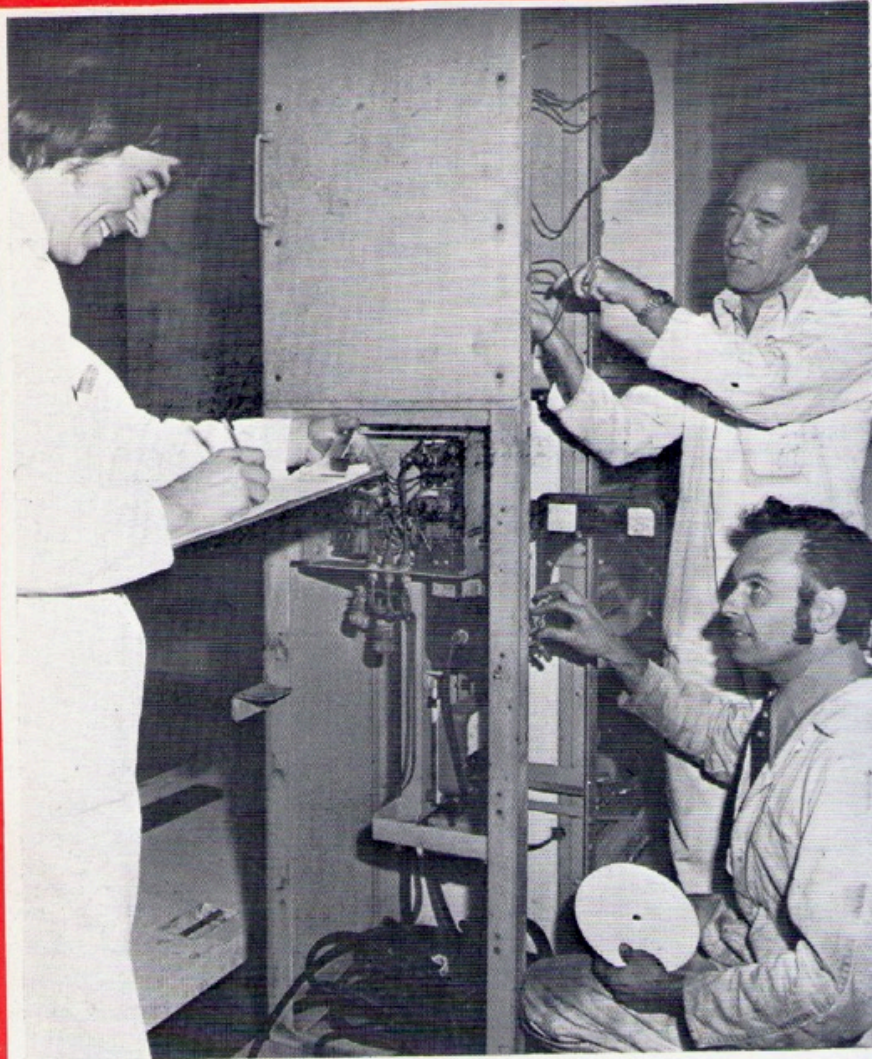
This business, as well as that for ACTA and BLC, is not the company's by right. It was won by offering an efficient and competitive service. Much of the credit is due to the regional operating superintendents and all staff engaged in transport, for it is largely due to them that the ACT system has become an international success story.

**ABOUT YOUR  
COMPANY—3**

cle fleet grew to its present size, as first Japan, then S.E. Asia and finally the New Zealand trades were containerised. This year our road transport costs alone will amount to about £3 million. In addition, we send a large number of







### Keeping the 'freezer' going

The 'freezer' team, including Brian Wilkinson (left), brother of Head Office's Derek Wilkinson, checking the Tilbury refrigerator motor. On the right — Wilf Skinner and John Donohue.

# THIS IS BIGGI



Terminal manager Tony Williamson (left) discussing lay-out of the reefer containers with his Terminal Engineer, Stan McGuire. Below:- Among those meeting visitors to Tilbury is gatehouseman Graham Timmis, here checking documentation of a container lorry.

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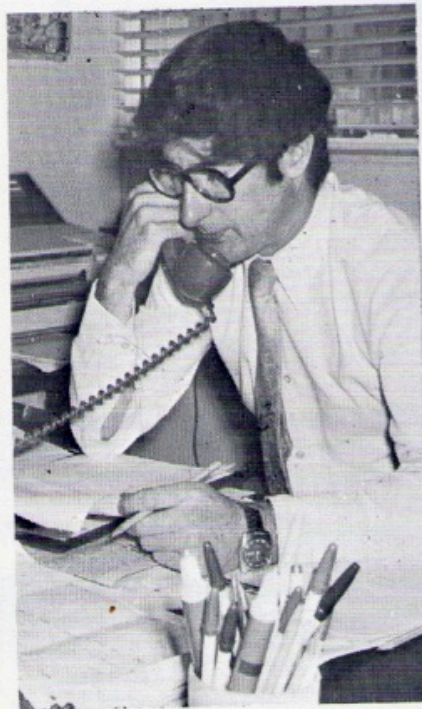
A well office (w work!) is stone ligh Rugby D for Grays

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Like m Planning, he prefers shows hov



They claim she's the busiest of all ACTS telex operators (rival claims to the Editor, please). June Hyatt, who handles messages from ACT vessels all over the world.



A keen golfer 'hooked' on Tartan ale — Assistant Ship Planner Douglas Barr, away from the 19th hole and caught up in the hectic business of the day.



## Lynne's ambition —

**LEEDS** receptionist/telephonist Lynne Hargreaves was once a telephonist at one of Britain's oldest and most famous hospitals — St. Bartholomew's in London.

Her hobbies — dancing, cooking and golf. Her ambition — to own a gown shop.

★ ★ ★

Eighteen-year-old Maxine Guest, of Rothwell, has joined ACTS Leeds as a credit control clerk. Hobbies — reading and painting.

Mother joined Le lists her knitting.

And Te Bridges l liaison cl est away Leeds Un



# THEIR LIFE AT ACT'S BEST UK TERMINAL

Terminal manager Tony Williamson is head of his hardworking team. The base is 18 acres, making it the largest ACT terminal. Since September, 1972, when the company became independent, 115 ships have called at No. 45 terminal of more than 109,137 containers has Tony and his team.

in charge in another area during winter is a qualified Rugby Union referee, and others which is easier to control — his 41 team or two teams of 15 Rugby toughs!

the Merchant Navy before joining ACT office a painting by his brother-in-law of the last ship in which he served.

### Model boats

who welcome visitors at the Tilbury museum Graham Timmis, who checks condition of container lorries going in and out of terminal. He spends much of his spare time building model boats.

for nearly two years at Tilbury, handles the ACT vessels all over the world, and at Tilbury he is Terminal Engineer Stan Franks responsible for Tilbury. He has an experience of eight.

### Research work

responsibility of Stan's team is maintenance of power generators at Tilbury. The team itself takes up most of their working time but still find time for research

Superintendent Robin Hymas, an ex-policeman who spent 10 years with the Lancashire Constabulary before going to Tilbury while with the Essex Constabulary and his wife now have four children.

### Little Kevin'

own figure in Tilbury main team they claim to do all the work. Kevin Hymas. This 16-year-old boy plays soccer for ACT, and for Thurrock and cricket

in office is Ken Tate, Thames Estuary Yachting Club every week-end in his 18 ft Tideway craft.

golf, Douglas Barr, of Ship Creek Golf Club. He even says he is a Tartan ale — which just shows a man can get.



As busy as can be — the team in the Container Controller's office. Left to right:— Lightweight cricketer and footballer Kevin Hymas; control clerk Peter Meredith; yachting enthusiast Ken Tate; Assistant Controller Keith Hobday; Movements Controller Bill Franks; and Assistant Controller Christopher Jones.

## ... and here is the news from the Tartan country



ELIZABETH SULLIVAN and Kay McFarlane, of Coatbridge ACTS staff, made headlines in their local paper recently as members of a ladies' darts team run by their local pub, the Forge Inn. The girls play once a week, competing against similar clubs from other pubs.

So great is the interest that a Ladies' Darts League has been formed, and the enthusiasm of Elizabeth and Kay has caused other female members of ACTS staff to take up the game.

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The following have been appointed to the committee of Coatbridge Sports and Social Club: Vice-Chairman Adam Whitelaw (Ben Line); secretary Bob Blackwood; treasurer Ian Mills.

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### Chris is promoted

After eleven months with the company, coding clerk Christopher Gray has been promoted to Assistant Cargo Superintendent. Sailing, skiing, swimming, cars, skating and horse-riding are his hobbies.

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Eighteen-year-old Donald McCaffery has joined the company as a coding clerk. Away from the office, he plays football and golf.

# GIRLS LEAD THE WAY AT DARTS

Annette Angus, credit controller, and her husband David have their first child — a son, Craig Andrew.

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Twenty-five-year-old Thomas Linden, who was in the Transport Dept. at Coatbridge, has been appointed Deputy Transport Superintendent at Manchester.

Married five months, Thomas describes his outside interests as football, table tennis, bowls, reading, the odd bit of gardening, beer and darts — 'in that order'!

## her own own shop

o Margaret Galbraith has taken over as a telex operator, and her interests as reading and

ial Army reservist Robert Hymas appointed as a sales clerk at ACTA. His chief interest in the office is watching



Gray



McCaffery



Linden



# RILH — a real man of the water!



Cambridge Trial Eight

## 'Salaries' Snatch Derby Pay-out

Despite pre-race pessimism and a feeling that once again they might have drawn 'donkeys and carthorses', Head Office salaries section made a clean sweep of the Derby 'tote'. They won first, second, third AND fourth prizes!



Winners Barbara Saunders, Pete Marshall, Sheila McIlmurray and Newton Carrasco

There is no truth in the suggestion that this was a 'fiddle', and salaries section want to thank Revenue Accounts for running the 'tote' and everybody else for their kind donations!

YOU would imagine that a man who has rowed at Cambridge, shot at Bisley, flown light aircraft in the Royal Artillery, plays the trombone and sings with Winchester City Choir would have quite a lot to say for himself in an interview.

But getting Robert Howland to talk about himself, as distinct from his job as Administration Manager with ACTS, is like getting Jim Callaghan to vote for Margaret Thatcher as the next Prime Minister.

The "nitty-gritty" of Bob Howland as an ACTS man is that he joined the Company as Administration Manager early in 1973, one of his first big tasks being organising the Head Office move from Fenchurch Street to its present headquarters in Richmond House, Southampton.

His earlier shipping experience was in Glen Line for 13 years, from Bill of Lading Clerk to Manager; this service included a spell in the Far East with Glen agents in Malaya, Singapore, Hong Kong and Japan, "doing every job that came my way". While in Kuala Lumpur he met the girl he was later to marry.

There came a time when Bob Howland in Hong Kong and the girl in Malaya were separated by hundreds of miles of water. Came a cable from Rosemary: "Have ring; fare please". They got engaged in a boat sailing round Hong Kong Island on the Queen's birthday!

Married in 1965, the Howlands now have three lovely children — Annabel aged 9, Juliet aged 7, and Charles aged 5.

### AT BISLEY

So far as rowing is concerned, Bob Howland claims that he took it up almost by accident at the age of 15. "I wasn't really very good at it", he says, "I was rather better at shooting". (That may well be true, for at the age of 16 he was shooting at Bisley for his school, Shrewsbury).

When time came for National Service, Bob Howland joined the Gunners. For very sound reasons. "Somebody told me", he says, "That if you joined the Gunners, you didn't have to walk—you rode!"

Later, while studying at Cambridge, he felt the time had come to take up serious exercise again.

"I went down one day to the College boathouse to have a look", he explains, "and there, limbering up in track suits, was a crew



## All that, — and 'winks' too

At Cambridge Bob Howland played for a University team against the Goons, led by Spike Milligan. Only a man with the Howland touch can shoot his fiddly so that it re-bounds into the cup off his tie!

ready to practice. One of them had the five Olympic rings on his track suit! When told that this was the College THIRD crew I nearly gave up before starting!" (It was not until a long time later that Bob discovered the Olympic colours were for bob-sleighting—not rowing!)

But he went to see the Captain of Boats, asked if he could start rowing — and finished up in the College first crew.

Stated like that, it all sounds so simple, but the fact remains that from 1956 to 1959, Bob Howland was rowing for his College in pairs, fours, and eights at places like Henley and other regattas; in his second year he got into the University Trial Eights and then into the Goldie crew (the Cambridge University second crew).

### SPARE MAN

He was "spare man" for the University crew against Oxford and in fact had to "stand-in" for one of the crew for the full-course trial just before the Boat Race. After Cambridge he was in a Leander Club Four in the 1960 Olympic trials, but was just pipped for the Olympics by a crew led by Christopher Davidge.

It's pretty fair to say that at work and play, Robert Howland is very much a man of the water.

## Now Ben are going all out for oil

Continued from page one

ODECO of New Orleans. The second vessel is Ocean Tide, a self-propelled jack-up rig which can drill in water depths of up to 250ft.

Said a spokesman for Ben Line: "Offshore drilling calls for many of the skills which are in the Ben Line blood — a high standard of service, a constant pressure to keep things moving and the maintenance and use by skilled personnel of complex machinery and electronics at sea.

"All our other vessels are designed to carry crew and cargo from Port A to Port B safely, comfortably and speedily. Ben Ocean Lancer has been developed to go to Point X in the open sea and to remain there stationary, without anchoring, for perhaps a month or more at a time.

"This diversification of our activities represents an exciting challenge to us all."





Keith Exley — See 'Kicked the Bucket'



Ian Keyl — See lead story below



The Speck 'family' — See Avril in Africa

# IT'S BOATS BY DAY AND NIGHT FOR IAN

Boats by day and boats by night . . . that's the story of Ian Keyl. By day, Ian is Cargo Superintendent at Leeds; by night (and in other spare moments) he works on his models of boats, farms and other things.

Most of his models are intended for one of his several nephews, the latest being a beautiful boat, the 'Seaforth Hero', based upon the ship on which his father serves.

His models are made from wood, and since he has (understandably) been banned from the kitchen, Ian does most of his work in the garage.

His "farms" include at least one based upon his father's farm.

## Kicked the Bucket

Feel sorry for Leeds refrigeration engineer Keith Exley, who badly sprained his ankle.

Feel even more sorry that he suffered the injury when he went to kick an empty plastic bucket — and discovered too late that it was full of solid concrete. . . .

## Avril in Africa

Mrs. Avril Speck, formerly receptionist/typist with ACTS at Leeds, has written from South Africa to say how well she and her family are settling down. Avril's husband, who was a salesman with ACTA at Leeds, now has a similar job with Ellerman and Bucknall in Johannesburg.

Before she left Leeds, a flight bag and matching suitcase from her friends were presented to her by regional manager Dennis Armitstead.

## Home from S.A.

Recent Ellerman and Bucknall visitors to Leeds ACTS have included Nat Elliot, Regional Manager in Port Elizabeth, and a former 'local', Jack Robinson, now Assistant Regional Manager in Durban.

Jack, a native of Bradford, celebrated his birthday while in Leeds.

Copy typist Susan Copeman has left Leeds to join her husband in Hull, where he has joined Worms Cargo Service (UK) Ltd. Susan (and her cats) will be missed.

. . . .

Regional manager Dennis Armitstead won £17 on the Containerbase Forecast. Since he spent a hefty chunk of his winnings on cakes for the entire staff, everybody hopes he soon wins again.

. . . .

Deputy Transport Superintendent Gordon Cage and his partner, Mrs Morag Worrall, won the inter-office mixed doubles badminton trophy.

The News from Leeds

## Granddad's cake

Beverley Hampson's granddad made a three-tier cake for her wedding to Alan Robinson. Bev is a data punch operator and Alan a contact lens technician with Nu Syte laboratories.

Bev, who has been nearly three years with ACTS, wore a dress of lace and silk trimmed with daisies, and the four bridesmaids had dresses in pale peach.

## A fishy story

Leeds Accounts clerk Richard Baker was one of a four-man team which recently landed a remarkable 47 lb haul off the Whitby coast. The anglers, all from Featherstone SAC, boated 124 fish during a six-hour session.



Richard Baker

"We caught nothing for an hour," says Richard. "Then there were two incredible drifts and the fish went mad."

Richard's big hauls go into the family deep freeze — keeping Richard, his wife and family well-stocked throughout the year.

## Guide dog fund nears £200

BASILDON ACTS Guide Dog Fund — announced in 'Contacts' some time ago — continues to make progress.

Fund secretary Jocelyn Rees reports that the total now stands at £176 and says: "This is a great effort so far. Our hope is that everybody will keep up the good work and not let their efforts flag."

## Easter Disco

An Easter disco at the Orsett Cock, organised by Linda Aston and Ian Turner, raised £10 for the Fund, and boxes of foil and silver paper from Southampton ACTS continue to swell the coffers.

Contributions, please, to Jocelyn — at Basildon.



Elliot and Robinson — See Home from S.A.

More news from Leeds at foot of centre pages



# SPORTSFRONT

## LEGS 14 WOULD LIKE A LOT MORE SPECTATORS, PLEASE



YOU'D THINK that a netball team as good-looking as this would have no shortage of spectator-supporters. Especially when a lot of hard work and enthusiasm pushed them into third place in the 1975/76 Winter League table, in which they came eighth the year before.

But like The Saints themselves, the Richmond House Netball Team would like a lot more spectators at their matches. Not necessarily 25,000; even 25 would be a great encouragement (writes goal shooter Julie Way, fourth from left above).

So how about it? The team is playing in the Summer League now, and fixtures can be checked on Richmond House notice boards. Why not check at once — and turn up at the next match?

*Maggie Safe (wing attack) was missing when the picture on the left was taken. The others (left to right) are: Jenny Glasspool (wing defence), Chris Houghton (goal attack), Ericka Camiot (centre), Julie Way, Chris Farmer (goalkeeper), Yvonne Still (goal defence), and umpire Anne Webber.*

## Ian sent off twice in the same match!

SOME EVIL tackling by the girls, completely ignored by the referee, left many of the men writhing in agony during the Head Office Girls v Boys football match at Awbridge Village Hall ground (writes our football correspondent).

It is perhaps significant that strange off-side decisions were the order of the day, and that Ian Drinkwater became the first player ever to be sent off twice in a match — once in each half.

It came as no surprise to anybody that final victory went to (you've guessed it!) the Girls, by five goals to four.

Scorers included Jenny Howard, Jan Fry, Chris Houghton, 'Dazzler' Drinkwater, Tom 'Jock' Jenkins, Peter Onslow-Free and Dave Dyke. Other outstanding players — Ericka Camiot, Kim Ockenden, Ken Cowley and Lorainne Burgess.

## ANYTHING TO REPORT

'SPORTSFRONT' is a page designed to cover ALL sports activities in the ACTS 'family'.

We can do this only if sports secretaries help to ensure that results and reports — plus pictures, if possible — are sent to local coordinators as soon as possible after fixtures take place. Editor.

## The night the girls beat the boys

MORE THAN fifty enthusiasts competed at netball, football, basketball, volleyball, badminton and table tennis when Head Office Sports and Social Club held another successful Sports Evening in April.



Yvonne Still punches over the net during volleyball.

All events were on a knock-out basis and the winners included Pan's People (netball), Chris and Keith Summerfield (badminton), and, again, Keith Summerfield (table tennis).

Final match of the evening — five-a-side football with the boys against the girls — was won (needless to say) by the girls, 4-1. Thanks go to organisers Ericka Camiot (Finance), Sue Cresswell (Personnel), Tom Jenkins (Documentary Services) and Chris Summerfield (Finance).

It should be noted that Peter Hughes competed in every event and looked none the worse for it the next morning (except to those in his own office!).

## BETTER-LATE-THAN-NEVER LIVERPOOL

THE LONG-AWAITED Liverpool versus Birmingham soccer match was arranged for 11 a.m. one recent Sunday morning. Since the Birmingham team failed to turn up until 1.30, it was assumed they had gone via Tilbury. By this time, all the spectators had gone home for dinner!

The match was finally played in windy conditions. Liverpool taking an early lead through Ken Thompson and increasing it soon

after through Martyn Neary. At half-time, Birmingham had pulled back to 2-1. Goals in the second half by George Jackson and Derek Wilson gave the home side a clear-cut 4-2 win.

Ken Thompson said after the match that this was his first goal for Liverpool — but wouldn't be the last. Special thanks to Michael Thompson, who did a splendid job as last-minute referee.



# SANDBAGS, FLYSPRAY — AND PYRAMIDS BY SUNSET



Pyramids — a 'sunset spectacular'

ANITA WHITLOCK, who joined Head Office last year as a Telex operator, is a girl bitten by the travel bug. That's why, at the age of 22, she left her home in Berlin and took the high road to South Africa, working first in a Johannesburg millinery factory and later opening her own small shop.

"After a while, I began to feel fed up and lonely and decided to make the journey home to Germany through what I believe to be some of the most fascinating countries in the world,"



she says. "The sights I saw on my travels through Kenya, Egypt, Greece and Switzerland were almost beyond belief.

"Perhaps because I have always been interested in ancient history, I found Egypt the most fascinating. The Pyramids, the Valley of the Kings, Cairo Museum — all bring back the most stimulating memories.

"In Cairo itself, I was amazed by the wide variety of traffic. Cars and buses, of course, but hundreds of horses and carts, and what seemed to be millions of bicycles. Baker boys rode their cycles with flat loaves of bread balanced firmly on their heads, a remarkable achievement.

"As cars are very expensive and buses packed, with men and women hanging precariously on their outsides, many people share taxis to work.

"Because of the war with Israel, sandbags were all over the City while I was there, and flies were a persistent nightmare.

"Wherever you sat or lay down, flies would settle on you. I caused great amusement by going around with a flyspray and spraying around myself at regular intervals. I even

sprayed my friends when they came to visit!

"Some time before I arrived in Cairo, a visitor could get to the Pyramids only through the desert. However, a new road had recently been completed, and one evening I went on horseback to see the Pyramids by sunset — a wonderful spectacle. The eerie light, the impressive remains of a once-great civilisation — everything combined to give you a sense of great humility.

"Outside — and back to reality. Several small boys begged for money ...

"Later, I took the train to Luxor and the fantastic Valley of the Kings, with the tomb of Ramesis II built into the mountain side and approached along a corridor of ancient paintings."

Since coming to England, where she first worked in a Regent Street (London) millinery shop, Anita has married an Englishman. "I am very happy", she says, "and one day hope to show him all the treasures that so delighted me."

## NOW TRY THE WILSON CROSSWORD

John Wilson, who works at ACTS headquarters in Richmond House, Southampton, not only solves crosswords — he likes to make them up. This is one he devised specially for this issue of 'Contacts'. We are offering a prize of £2 for the first correct answer. Please send your solution (printing your name and office location clearly on the reverse) in an envelope to Mrs. Jan Chandler, Personnel, at Head Office, Richmond House, Southampton. All entries will be kept unopened until Wednesday, August 4, when the Editor will make the draw. The first correct answer wins the £2.

### CLUES

**Across**

- 1 Blow on the pastry?
- 3 Blemish
- 7 Religious festival
- 8 Legendary woman
- 9 Sign of the drinking times
- 13 Easting
- 14 Games
- 15 They say a man has seven!

**Down**

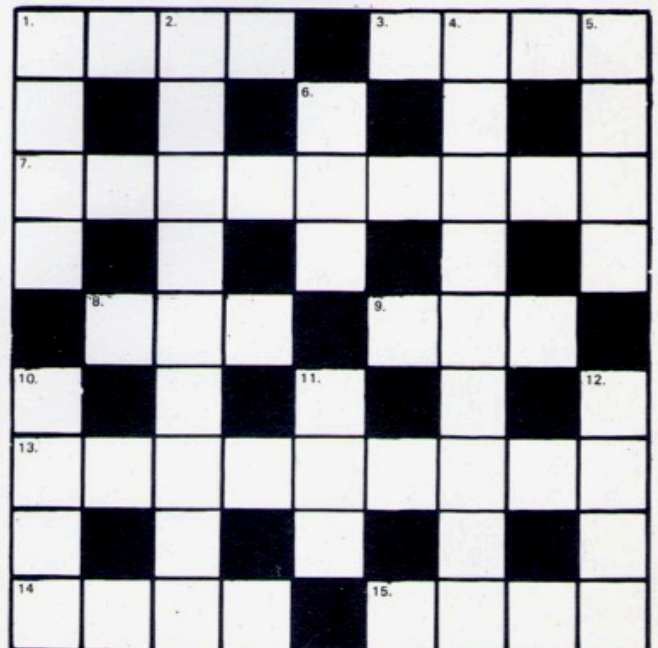
- 1 Step
- 2 Spend a penny?
- 4 Joining together
- 5 Corrosion
- 6 Enquire
- 10 Correct
- 11 Snake
- 12 They don't have a lion anymore!

### Maura swaps the horses for a typewriter

Twenty-four-year-old Maura Engwall has been appointed a secretary in the Personnel Department at Head Office.

Membership secretary of Southampton Test Young Conservatives, she gives her outside interests as horse-riding, tennis, cooking and canvas embroidery.

Before joining ACTS, Maura worked with Sir Kynaston and Lady Studd at Rockbourne. Her job? "A bit of everything — looking after the children, the horses, cooking . . . the lot", says Maura.





IT HAD to happen one day. Southampton versus Manchester United in an F.A. Cup Final. And when it DID happen, two ACTS centres were bound to be split asunder — if only

for a few hours. 'Contacts' took the line of least resistance — and invited both sides to have their say. Here are the Cup Final reports from the rival correspondents.

# THAT CUP BATTLE

## How the ACTS Saints saw it . . .

"UNITED will, of course, win the F.A. Cup", said the Mirror. "United 6, Southampton 0", was the Bobby Charlton-forecast.

Just about every paper in the land, from the Daily Express to the Biggleswade Bugle, told us it would be 'Easy for United'.

All of which seems to prove that those who say a little knowledge is a dangerous thing, are right on the ball. It seemed that most football writers had long since decided that the true final had been played at Hillsborough — and refused to concede that the saints had a hope in Hell. (As Southampton manager McMenemy said, a lot of people had failed to do their homework, and did not realise that during the season Saints had proved their ability to beat the best in the land.)

When the great day arrived, United's red and white army marched on Wembley in the belief that winning the Cup was a formality. 'You've come a long way for nothing' was their chant.

### OUTSUNG, TOO!

However, once the game got under way, it was soon apparent (on both pitch and terrace) that this was going to be no walkover. The country yokels from Hampshire were not only outplaying the mighty Northerners — they were outsinging them, too!

In the second half Saints made more and more runs at the United defence, and with ten minutes to go a young lad called Bobby Stokes grabbed the Cup from under United's nose with a fine goal that caused Wembley to erupt into a sea of yellow and blue.

It had certainly been a day of "Yellow and blue versus Manchester who?"

(The above report was contributed by Sheila Gainfort and Steve Burdett-Clarke).



One lucky girl with a free 'passport' to the 1976 F.A. Cup Final was Richmond House Administration Department typist Lorraine Oldroyd, who won a free ticket in a Carrefour Hypermarket contest. Lorraine (second from left) is seen here with another winner, receiving her ticket from Saints Bobby Stokes, the match-winner, and Peter Osgood.



The confidence that showed BEFORE the game

## . . . and the same match from the other end

THE tension is unbearable, the twin-towers holding a special meaning as we walk down Wembley Way. Tickets are at a premium — £6 seats going for anything between £20 and £30. In the ground, banners at both ends wave defiantly as the chanting becomes intense.

Then the teams appear from the tunnel and all Hell is let loose.

In the first 30 minutes, United are all over Southampton, goalkeeper Turner seeming to lead a charmed life. United supporters suggest that at this time a fleet of ACT containers couldn't get through Southampton's congested goalmouth. More congested than Southampton Terminal, are playing a 7.2.1 formation — seven defenders, two mid-field and one attacker.

### UNDERESTIMATED

In the 36th minute, Southampton have their only real chance to score, but Stepney, a masterly 'keeper, anticipates Channon's weak side foot. Apart from McIlroy hitting the underside of the goal bar and Southampton scoring a misfit offside goal, there is more action in the stand bar.

To be honest, the football doesn't live up to Wembley expectations. On the day, Southampton win because United do not play the way they have played all season.

And one must admit that Manchester have underestimated Southampton, treating them as a Second Division side who just failed to get promotion, rather than as a Cup Final team.

(This report is by DAVID KIRK).

### DID YOU KNOW . . .

A BORE is a man who wants to talk when you want him to listen.

HOME is the place where a man can say what he likes because nobody ever listens to him.

SECOND WIND is what an after-dinner speaker gets when he says: "And in conclusion . . ."

A DOG wouldn't be such a good friend if he wagged his tongue instead of his tail.