



The look that says 'We've won!'

You need only look at this picture to realise that skipper Chris Summerfield and her Head Office colleagues — Mick Creed; Mike Mackay, Barry Kirk and Pete Thompson — had something to celebrate. Too true! Our cameraman caught them in the grounds of the West Cliff Hotel at Hythe just after they had become first-ever winners of the Peter Yarwood Challenge Cup. Glasgow came second in the final and Tilbury third.

Below: Chris receives the trophy from Jan Chandler, then of Head Office Personnel Department, who had played a major part in organising the competition.

Full report and pictures of the Challenge Cup final on Pages 8 and 9; another colour picture on the Back Page.



"Confidence in us and our future"

A GENERAL indication of confidence in us and in our future' was how ACTS Managing Director Peter Bainbridge described recent changes in the company's Board. Basically, the Board restructuring means that four members who have until now represented operating companies and shareholders have withdrawn in favour of three new members appointed directly from the company's senior management.

The new Directors are Administration Manager **BOB HOWLAND**, Technical Services Manager **JOHN ORMISTON** and Financial Controller **DAVID HAMILTON**.

With Bill Campbell (Operations) and Del Jenkins (Management Services) already on the Board, all aspects of company activity are now represented at policy-making level.

When the restructured Board was first announced, it was said that the shareholders considered the new set-up appropriate to the company's continued growth. It reflected their confidence in the ACTS management.

Said Peter Bainbridge: "Our close working links and daily contact with the operating companies will not be affected. The expansion and cost effectiveness of our own company is due in no small part to the efforts of our retiring directors — Alexander Macintosh, of ACTA; James Kirsop, of Ben Line; John Joyce, of Cunard/Camel; and Gordon Gibson, of Blue Star".

ACTS Chairman Alastair Lloyd and Deputy Chairman Gordon Reid, founder directors of ACTS 12 years ago, stay on as the only non-executive members of the new Board. "While

(Continued on Page 5)

ANYONE FOR SQUASH?

The boys and girls of Leeds ACTS would appear to think they're invincible at squash...

'Contacts' has had the following challenge from Kevin Toolan, of Leeds Imports:

'If any other region is prepared to take us on in a tournament, please ask them to get in touch with me.'

Don't get trampled in the rush, folks. Just get in touch with Kevin...

And now, Who's for the Grand Prix? — See Back Page.

**Who gets through
4 million gallons
of whisky a year?**

See Page 6

GLENISE FACES SHARKS IN LEAGUE UNDER THE SEA



Glenise leaving the water after a dive at Dibba beach.

Just about a year ago, Glenise Mealing, who had been secretary to Regional Manager Graham Wilson at Basildon, went out to join her old boss at the Sharjah Containerbase. In this, her second article from there, she tells how she became a 'deep sea diver' and met the sharks.

INTRODUCED to the aqua lung at a Sharjah swimming pool, I was at once impatient to get below the sea waves, instead of just bobbing along the surface with snorkel, mask and flippers.

Lessons at the Sharjah branch of the British Sub Aqua Club were followed by my first 'dive' around a semi-submerged shipwreck off Dibba beach. I was 'hooked' at once. The ship's cargo had been a consignment of unassembled bicycles, and it was great fun, finning along among the handlebars and pedals. What really fascinated me, however, were the beautiful colours of the fish — bright yellow, orange, blue etc. I just couldn't believe the tranquility (as I thought) of this world below water.

I had a few more dives round the wreck (now breaking up and very dangerous), before progressing to deeper water.

Later in the year, as I became accustomed to deeper and deeper water, I was exploring the sea bottom off the coast near Oman, with a friend, when I looked up and saw a large fish, about three feet long. I tried to attract my friend's attention, but just YOU try getting somebody to notice panicky sign language under these conditions. On the way back to shore, we saw a similar fish, a little bigger this time — "Jaws" in miniature — and I can assure Mark Spitz that he has two close rivals for the next Olympics!



Cycle handlebars and pedals were the diving obstacles under this ship-wreck off Dibba beach.

After calming down on the beach for an hour, I realised that unless I went back into the water then and there, I might never do so again. This time there were no panics.

We came across sharks again, however, a few weeks later when diving round a small island off Dibba. We were happily exploring when the great 6ft monster suddenly appeared. We got down into the rocks and watched it glide gracefully past us. It is a truly fantastic sight to see such a huge fish moving so slowly.

On another occasion, I was exploring rocks when I saw two long thin rods on the sea bottom. Thinking they were spears from a gun, I dived to pick them up. Suddenly, they moved and I realised the 'rods' were attached to a pair of stingray fish, again a fantastic sight when flying through the water.

There can, as readers will now realise, be considerable danger in trying to collect souvenirs from the deep. Great care must be taken. Various species of 'snails', in shells similar to conches, are deadly poisonous. A stone fish (which I saw while diving recently) can be fatal — tread on it and you are likely to be dead in a matter of minutes.

So long as all precautions are taken, the gathering of fish and other relics from the sea can be great fun. My diving companion has now built a tank for a small marine aquarium, and I look forward, when the diving season starts again in March, to collecting some of the smaller fish, including the very pretty 'puffer' which can blow itself up to three times its original size!

—It's the land of the rising pun!

OWE'D TO SHARJAH

*Along with the Sun, the Sand and the Sea,
There lies a new Terminal called S.C.T.
Its a busy wee place
Where boxes abound, some in the air, some on the
ground:*

X X X

*Container controlling far into the night,
There's Lockett the Aussie, sand happy, but bright.
His cards are revealing, that everything's here,
Excepting of course, when there's rugby and beer.*

X X X

*From Graham and Glenise come policies few,
For each one to action takes one week or two.
Their letters are flying here, near and afar,
But always the answers are just "inshallah".*

X X X

*Banished to Saudi, went poor dear old Wal,
"Make no bones about it, there's no alcohol".
At this point in time, he's screaming for trucks,
Too busy for drinking, "Ain't that right Ducks".*

X X X

*Ken Allen producing in letters and prose,
Far reaching reports and many Mee-mos.
His cooking's atrocious, dinner invites he'll sieze,
But if none are forthcoming, it's back to the cheese.*

*Cameron of Con-Base in on the ACT,
(Ex-OCL as a matter of fact.)*

*"From Coatbridge to Sharjah's a bloody long way,
I've got my booze licence, I think I'll just stay."*

X X X

*Bay plans and stack lists, from Sparky in reams,
He makes it all simple, or that's how it seems.
But it all ends in chaos, when the ship goes:
It's normal for Sparky, to leave the re-stows.*

X X X

*Sue Ide of Gulfainer, all bronzed and bond free,
Spends all day abasking by pool or by sea.
Her routine is simple, her office is neat,
By nine in the morning her work is complete.*

X X X

*There's Muppets, there's football, there's afternoon
tea;
It helps us all flourish in the sand by the sea;
But it's not quite like Britain, the place we all miss,
There's nothing in Sharjah, but to get on the —
BEER.*

X X X

* Inshallah : To-morrow — maybe

Footnote: This poem was sent to Contacts by David Sparks, who went to Sharjah from Seaforth Terminal.

Thanks, Jan

Any errors in this issue of 'Contacts' must be blamed entirely on Jan Chandler, formerly of ACTS Head Office Personnel (writes the Editor).

This is the first issue since the start of 'Contacts' some years ago over which Jan's eagle eye, as chief co-ordinator, has not watched from start to finish.

On the afternoon of Friday, January 6, she packed up her belongings, closed her desk — and drove off as silently as her almost vintage roadster would allow.

We are more than happy to report that Jan left for the very best of reasons — to await her first baby with husband Roger. On behalf of her colleagues, she was presented with a gold watch, an Instamatic camera — plus potty and bib for the baby.

All associated with 'Contacts' send their best wishes and would like to acknowledge the very considerable role Jan played in building up this baby, too!

STOP PRESS — IT'S a girl!



SCOTS FAMILY MacP ON TARGET

SHIPWRECK the Scots Family MacPherson on a desert island, give them a bow and arrow each, and my bet is they'll fend for themselves even better than the Swiss Family Robinson (writes CARTER LEONARD).

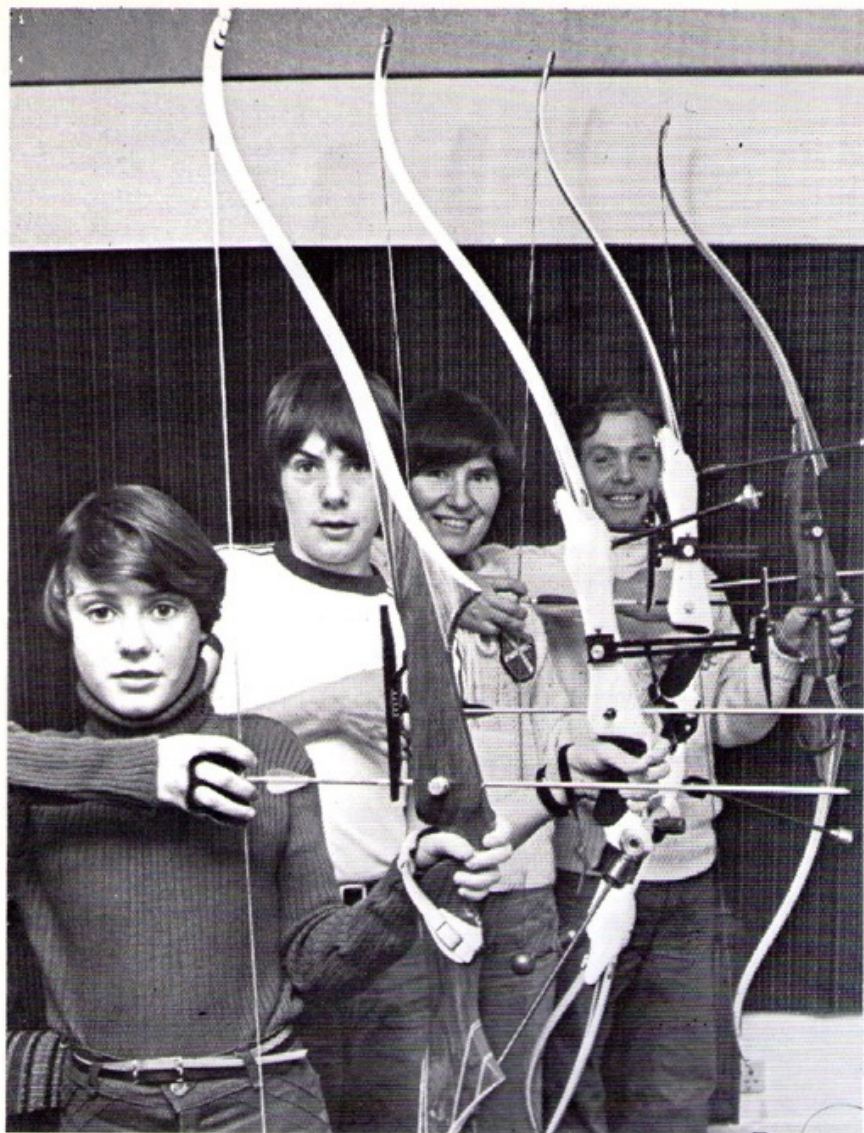
It seems there is nothing the MacPhersons can't catch once they have a bow and arrow in their hands. At the moment, their joint bag includes 19 cups and other trophies — plus more than 100 medals. And if dedication, skill and enthusiasm count for anything, that is only a start.

The family just can't stop winning toxopholy (posh word for archery) honours. Mother Margaret, secretary since 1974 to Scottish ACTS Regional Manager Norman Niblock, came third last August in the Scottish Archery Association Championship and son Leslie, aged 15, is the Scottish National Boy's Champion and runner-up to the overall British Boys' champion. Twelve-year-old daughter Linda is Scottish National Girls' Champion.

And husband David, a physical education lecturer at Hamilton College and no mean toxopholist himself, is assistant manager to the Scottish national archery team.

The family interest in archery began five years ago when David, looking for new sports to keep his students (and himself) abreast of the times, picked on toxopholy. Later, he began to spread the gospel further afield and introduced the sport to physically handicapped people, many of whom now compete — and compete well — from wheelchairs. (The Scottish men's champion is, in fact, a wheelchair archer).

"Leslie took up archery, like any son might, to follow in dad's footsteps," says Margaret, "and the time came when either I joined them or got left at home. Once I got hooked, so did Linda."



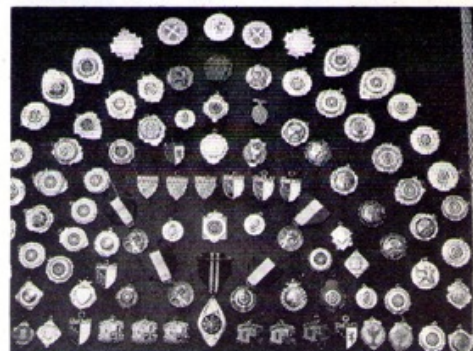
ALL PULLING TOGETHER — Linda, Leslie, Margaret and David MacPherson.

Pictures that capture the magic of Christmas



One satisfied customer (left), present firmly clutched in her hands, leaves the magical presence of Santa Claus at the Christmas party for children of Leeds ACTS staff. And in the picture below, one little mind is obviously about to be made up! Behind the whiskers and beneath the red hat in both pictures is Deputy Regional Manager Ian Keyl.

Twenty-eight children were among the guests. Tea — served in the rest room — was the usual 'bun fight' of jelly, cakes, trifle and ice (s)cream.



Medals (above) and trophies (below) won by the Formidable MacPherson Four.





Pretty Sylvia Cook with new husband Ian Taylor.

THE DAY WENDY GOT A DOUBLE

MONDAY, October 24, 1977, is a date 18-year-old Birmingham ACTS punch operator Wendy Buffery will never forget.

That was the day on which she and boyfriend Jim (pictured on the right) won the All-England Novice Trophy for Ballroom Dancing at Blackpool's famous Tower Ballroom — and then promptly announced their engagement!

Although Wendy and Jim had been dancing only a year when they achieved their Blackpool success, they had already won 25 other titles.



Wendy Buffery and fiancé receiving their All-England dance prize.

Proud parents

WELCOME to Ray Burt, who has joined Birmingham office as Assistant Cargo Superintendent, and to Lynn Beesley, a trainee Telex operator.

And **CONGRATULATIONS TO** Deputy Regional Manager Dave Clark and wife Carol on the birth of a 9lb 13oz son, Jonathan.

TO Margaret Jones, commercial assistant, and husband Derek, due to become proud parents in June; and

TO Senior Transport Assistant Ian Taylor, whose bride Sylvia Cook, looked as pretty as a picture — as, indeed, our picture far left shows — when they were married at the Abbey, Erdington.

The staff dinner-dance organised by the Sports and Social Committee, at Penns Hall, Sutton Coldfield, on December 30, was unanimously voted a success by all who remember it — and a fantastic success by quite a few who don't!

New bikes for old is Ian's hobby

Buying old motor-cycles and rebuilding them is the unusual hobby shared by Ian Stewart, who has joined the Cargo Department in Leeds, and his father.

Ian is a keen follower of motor-cycle racing and plans to be in the Isle of Man for this year's TT Races.

Other newcomers to Leeds region include:—

Twenty-three-year-old **MARILYN BARKER**, credit control clerk, who gives swimming, dressmaking and fell-walking as her spare-time hobbies;

Twenty-one-year-old **DENNIS CONNELL** (Imports), who joined the company late last year, is married with a baby daughter. He is a squash enthusiast.

JULIE THOMPSON, who is 20 and has joined ACTA Marketing as a secretary. A keen squash player and swimmer, Julie recently spent three months in America on a sight-seeing tour.

Eighteen-year-old **MARK FOSTER**, who has joined Accounts, lists his hobbies as golf, football, table tennis — and painting still life.



Robert James, a first child for ACTA sales representative Ian Oliver and his wife.

Newcomers to the Leeds ACTS 'family' include **ANDREW DAVID**, second son of Assistant Cargo Supt. Dave Wade and his wife (Andrew chose 3 a.m. as the time at which to put in his 7lb 8oz appearance);

Pat Cobban, a coding clerk at Leeds for about eight months, left last Autumn and now has a baby girl, Michelle Louise.

Import clerk Janet Murray has left because the home bought by her and her husband proved too inconvenient for the job, and Barbara Hesketh, secretary to ACTA Regional Sales Manager Walter Marshall, has gone to do a similar job with a firm in the city.

Cargo Superintendent Phil Shepherd, whose wife Jean recently had a daughter, Emma Louise, has joined Ellermans, at Liverpool; and Barry Phillips, Assistant Cargo Superintendent, has left to join the Basildon ACTS team.

New to Basildon

Nine newcomers to the Basildon ACTS team got together recently for a 'Contacts' cameraman. Left to right in the back row are Stephen Edwards (export clerk), Chris Wood (import clerk), David Licence (export clerk) and Neil Eldred (Import clerk).



Ladies who (quite rightly) took the front row seats are (left to right) Jane Sullivan (import clerk), Julia Thornton Lane (import clerk), Liz Bloomfield (a courier with Central Services), Margaret Bogle (export clerk) and Toni Faint (import clerk).

Three of the group — Stephen, David and Neil — joined ACTS straight from school.

Christmas jinks

Please don't ask us to say who's who — and where — in the picture below, taken during the Christmas dinner-dance for Basildon and Tilbury staff at Garons Banqueting Suite, Southend. It's obvious from the smiles all round that a good time was had by everybody.

Among the welcome guests were ACTS Chairman Alastair Lloyd and one of the company's newly-appointed directors, Bob Howland, both with their wives.

Two other Basildon Christmas events worthy of note. First, the annual office lunch (very much a women's lib. affair, run by two lady members of staff). Among the prizes awarded was one for Stirrer of the Year — and a battery for the Bionic Woman. (Our correspondent has not named the winners. — Editor.)

Secondly, the staff party, which ended with a friendly local policeman doing a jig on the Car Park with a lady member of Central Services who was wearing his helmet!



When did YOU last send a Telex?

IN the June, 1977, issue of 'Contacts', we wrote about the £50,000 ADX computerised message switching system just installed by ACTS. We said that not only did it link all the company's UK bases, but that it gave access also TO A WORLD-WIDE INTEGRATED TELEX NETWORK.

Now, almost eight months later, we ask a simple question:— How often since then have YOU sent a message by ADX?

How often, having lifted the telephone to speak with Tom, Dick or Harriet have you immediately put it back on its rest and decided to use Telex instead?

You will soon be getting a copy of a new booklet produced to highlight the benefits of the ADX Telex system.

You will read (and probably realise for the first time) that it's cheaper to use Telex. That when facts and figures have to be given, it can be more accurate since it affords opportunity for a double check. That it can, in many instances, be a quicker way of getting information back. And that it can save YOU, the message-sender, a lot of valuable time.

Nobody can TELL you in advance just when it's best to use the ADX and when it's best to use a telephone. But it's useful to have a few guidelines about both communications systems — and when each is best suited to YOUR needs. It helps you to make up your mind.

LOOK OUT for the booklet — then look at the pictures on the right and ask yourself "When Did I Last Ask This Girl To Do Something For Me?"

All the girls pictured with this feature are among the Telex operators working in ACTS regions.



Maureen Radden
(Basildon)



Vicki Barton
(Basildon)



Daphne Bird
(Leeds)



Les Forster, Jan McLusky and Kathy Nolan.
(The Liverpool trio)



Lynn Beesley and Steve Flemming
(Birmingham)



Susan Jackson
(Barking)



Marian Clayton
(Seaforth)



Charmaine Court
(Southampton)



Ann Butler
(Southampton)

"Confidence in our future"

(Continued from Page One)

working full-time for their own companies, they have a vast knowledge of ACT and ACTS affairs," said Peter Bainbridge, who added:

"Our main business is still to provide services for the parent operating companies, but we should now all be looking hard for fresh opportunities to extend our work.

"We shall be charging the operating companies only for the specific type and level of service they require. We must therefore be cost effective in all we do. The change of emphasis in control and charging should be taken by all in ACTS as a general indication of confidence in us and in our future."

Peter Bainbridge himself is an ACT pioneer. Originally at the group's Fenchurch Street headquarters, he played a key role in developing the first ACT container service.

Bill Campbell is also an ACT pioneer. Like Peter Bainbridge, he was one of the small Fenchurch Street team that got the Britain/Australia container service off the ground.

Del Jenkins joined the company in 1970 as Head of Management Services, and became a Director in February last year. Married with two children, 42-year-old Del lists his hobbies as sailing, swimming and 'house maintenance'.

First of the three Board newcomers, Bob Howland joined as Administration Manager in 1973, his first big job being organisation of the Head Office move from London to Southampton.

Though David Hamilton joined ACTS only in 1975, his association with the company goes

back longer. Five years before that, working on a consultancy basis, he spent the best part of a year putting in a transport costing system. Outside interests include travel, good food and drink, being on the water ('preferably with a gin and tonic') and all kinds of motor sport.

John Ormiston, who lives with his wife and two children at Swanmore, has been four years with ACTS. After a spell in Engineering Design, he became technical services manager.



THE NEW BOARD meets at Southampton. Front row (left to right): Deputy Chairman Gordon Reid; company secretary John Cove; Chairman Alastair Lloyd; and Managing Director Peter Bainbridge. Back row: Del Jenkins, Bob Howland, John Ormiston, David Hamilton and Bill Campbell.

LITTLE 'UN' 'SWALLOWS' 4

GALLONS OF A YEAR!

You have
report the
his ACTS
through a
year!



DATA ROOM TEAM headed by Elizabeth Lewis (right), who has been three years with the company, includes Telex operator Kay Russell (left) and data prep operator Irene Baxter. **RIGHT:** Regional Manager Norman Niblock and his secretary Margaret MacPherson.



READY TO GET THINGS ON THE ROAD are the transport and equipment section. Left to right, foreground: Jim Stewart (assistant equipment inspector), Tom McKenzie (equipment inspector), Robert Rae (transport assistant), Harry Johnston (assistant transport superintendent) and Alex Chambers (transport superintendent). Background: John Kennedy (container controller), Alex McLaren (transport assistant), Jim Campbell (transport assistant) and Bill Malone (costing clerk). **RIGHT:** Cash watchers Anne Boland (senior accounts clerk) and Jean Boyne (credit control clerk).



MILLION WHISKY

only to take a slight liberty with the facts to Regional Manager Jock MacNiblock and team at Coatbridge, near Glasgow, get out three MILLION gallons of whisky a

Firstly, the Christian name is really Norman and there's no 'Mac' to the Niblock, but Liverpool-born Norman has lived and worked so long North of the Border you soon begin to realise that he's a Scotsman by heart if not by birth. ('I came here seventeen years ago to do a job with a stevedoring firm and have been here ever since. I love the country', he says).

Secondly, the amount of whisky passing every year through ACTS hands at Coatbridge — on its way to other people, it should be explained — is probably nearer four million gallons than three. But what's the odd bottle (or gallon) between friends?

"I suppose it's not really surprising that whisky exports account for something like 25 per cent of the export cargo we handle," says Norman. "After all, we're in the heart of whisky land. But I must say that sometimes it's a bit heartbreaking to look out of the window and see 4,000-gallon tanks of the stuff go past on their way to remote corners of the world.

Small is best!

"However, there's a lot of other regular cargo as well. Tractors and CKD trucks from British Leyland at Bathgate; cars from Chrysler at Lynwood; Polaroid cameras by their thousands for Australia and the Far East; diving gear for Singapore; and high quality cloth, woollen and cashmere goods from the Borders, going to all sorts of places".

Norman, of course, has seen the Coatbridge Containerbase grow from scratch. He knows that it is the smallest ACTS region (and likely to remain so unless a Scottish export miracle happens) but maintains there is an awful lot of truth in the maxim that small is good — and smallest is best.

There was a time when a steelworks stood on the present ACTS containerbase site. With a main North/South railway line running only a few yards away and access lines leading directly into and out of the area, it was a "natural" for the



Video transmission of information helps the work of the Commercial Section, headed by Ian Mills (foreground, left, at Keyboard). In the background are commercial assistants Jim Laird and Theresa Espie; in the foreground, commercial assistant Donald McCaffery, and section leader (exports) Bill McGregor.

Containerbase Federation to take over the site when it became vacant. (Apart from the railway lines, the main A74 road to the South, linking with the M6 and M1 motorways, is close at hand, too).

Late in 1969, Norman was appointed Operations Superintendent to watch over conversion of the steelworks site into a

By LESTER CARROLL

containerbase. "It all started in a small wooden shed", he recalls, "with myself, Ken Macdiarmid and a secretary".

His present office, incidentally, is only a few yards from where that little wooden hut once stood.

Norman had a spell as Operations Manager for United States Lines at Greenock before returning to Coatbridge, in 1972, as ACTS Regional Manager. He claims that much of the

ACTS success at Coatbridge is due to what he calls "the stability of a small Scottish town giving good employment to a happy bunch of people doing a worthwhile job".

The statistics of Coatbridge would seem to bear him out. At the time of going to Press, the regional base has a total staff of 35. No fewer than 23 have been there for three years or more, which must prove something.

Take 'Fergie' Agnew, for instance. Now 44, he has been Coatbridge Cargo Superintendent ever since operations began there in 1969.

'Fergie' spent his early working days at sea — and stayed there for some 20 years. When he left school in Glasgow, he joined the (Paddy) Henderson Line as a cadet, eventually becoming a Chief Officer with Blue Star. He and wife Margaret have two children — Elaine, aged 14, and Steven (10) — and for 'Fergie', 'messing about with wood' is his main outside interest.

Men, too, like Tom McKenzie, a dedicated container man for ten years now and Equipment Inspector at Coatbridge for six of them.

For the first two of his container years, Tom was with Rubery Owen, in charge of container repairs, and then set himself up in private business as a container repairer on his own account.

When he was asked to join ACTS, he was happy to give up the responsibilities of running his own company and to throw in his lot and his energies again with a bigger concern.

'Fergie' Agnew (right) has been cargo superintendent at Coatbridge ever since he joined ACTS, from Blue Star Port Line, when the Scottish containerbase opened. With him here are his two assistant superintendents — Alex Anderson, with the company since 1973, and John Gray, who joined in June, 1975.



Voice that says a thousand 'Hellos' is that of pop music fan and self-admitted blood-thirsty film-goer, Ann Hunter. Some call her 'Jaws', but ask her why — don't ask us!



A BIG PULL BY WHISKER!

BY THE SPORTS EDITOR

IT would be nice to report a breathless hush on the lawn of the West Cliff Hotel at Hythe, near Southampton, at 11.30 a.m. on Sunday, December 10. At that precise moment, teams from Glasgow, Tilbury and Head Office — some, I suspect, regretting minor indulgencies the night before — joined mortal combat to decide the first-ever destination of the Peter Yarwood Challenge Cup.

Let's face it, when stumps had, metaphorically, been drawn the night before, the final issue could not have been more in doubt. With table tennis, darts, pool and five-a-side football all completed, a mere eight points separated the leaders — Head Office (44) and Glasgow (36).

Only the tug-of-war was to come — and with five points available for each winning team, Glasgow stood to pull off a memorable last-minute victory if they could beat both Tilbury and Head Office. And despite the formidable figure of Kevin Hymas, standing like a rock at the back of the Tilbury five, it wasn't impossible!

It would be nice, as I said, to report a breathless hush as the three teams lined up, before an impressed and impressive crowd, for the final test. But it would not be true. The fact is that when Kevin Hymas and his Tilbury Tigers dug their heels into the soft turf of the West Cliff lawn, the roar of the spectators could have been heard across Southampton Water and the five Glasgow stalwarts might just as well have been pulling against a ten-ton tractor!

Just three points!

In the final analysis, Tilbury tugged both Head Office and Glasgow off the face of the earth, though Glasgow finally had some compensation by beating Head Office, thus finishing only three points behind on aggregate — 41 to 44.

There is little doubt that the first year of the Peter Yarwood Cup competition, open to teams from all sports and Social Clubs within the ACTS 'family', and culminating in a final that will be long remembered by those who 'spectated' and participated, justified all the hard work put into it by sports club officials generally and by Peter Smith who took all the pictures used here and his team at Head Office in particular.

Said ACTS Managing Director Peter Bainbridge, who, with his family, was an enthusiastic spectator of the five-a-side football on the Saturday afternoon: "I must admit a few initial reservations about whether the competition could be made to work, but there is no doubt that it did work, worked well — and was a tremendous success".

The organisers are already planning a repeat tournament for 1978. *(Continued on Page 10)*



GLASGOW'S Janet McCallum in action during her table tennis battle with Southampton's Mike Mackay. Mike won 21-14, 21-7.



AFTER A DOUBLE goes Donald McAffery, of Glasgow, during his darts game with Pete Thompson, of Head Office. Pete won by two games to one.



NICE THROW, Julie. Julie Bowman, of Basildon, playing for Tilbury, in action during the darts tournament.



SOTON'S SKIPPER, Chris Summerfield, shows her team the way by winning all four of her tennis games.

LENDING A LITTLE WEIGHT to his team's effort in the table tennis tournament. Tilbury's Kevin Hymas makes a back-hand return to Southampton's Barry Kirk. Kevin, anchor man in the Tilbury tug-of-war team, won all four of his table tennis games.

GETS SOTON HOME



THE BIG PULL that settled the Peter Yarwood championship. Tilbury pulling Glasgow to tug-of-war defeat — thus giving the overall championship to Head Office.



JANET McCALLUM, Ian Mills and company pulling Glasgow to a final tug-of-war victory against Head Office.



OVERJOYED that Tilbury's tug-of-war success has given Head Office victory, the Soton skipper, Chris Summerfield, rushes to kiss Tilbury anchor man Kevin Hymas.



NOT PART of the championship, but under the eagle eye of Glasgow's Margaret MacPherson (see Page 3), Ian Mills tries his hand at archery.

Don't look too closely but the lady's got a beard!



The Globetrotters lined up for the Fancy Dress Parade. L to r: Marlene Osbaldeston, Dyan Fidler (front), Andrea Osbaldeston, Mrs. East, Barry (He's No Lady) Daniels, Maxine Daniels and Caron Lovwell.

HOW LEEDS CAME ALMOST LAST IN THE BED RACE...

AFTER finishing amid deafening cheers, Leeds ACTS Globetrotters learned, to their complete surprise, that they had NOT finished last in the Bank Holiday charity bed race at Rothwell Park, Leeds. 'Contacts' is reasonably proud to report that they came 10th in a field of 11, and the fact that the definitive losers had to drop out because a wheel fell off their bed should in no way detract from ACTS glory.

A condition of entry was that the occupant of each bed must be of the opposite sex to those carrying it, and a beard on the face of the ACTS cheer leader at all times confirmed that, despite pigtails, short (and at times revealing) skirt, make-up and stockings, the body underneath everything was indeed that of Maxine Daniels' husband Barry.

Coming unstuck

Twice during the fearsome race, the Globetrotters almost gave up the struggle — first at Willow Turn, where, faced with a ravine at the bottom of which loomed the murkiest water in Britain, they promptly took the plunge, and got struck right in the middle!

Second obstacle almost to finish them was the uphill struggle at Hangman's Hill, but this, too, they surmounted — and actually ran the last few yards to the finish post, only to be told that the entire course had to be undertaken TWICE.

Two bottles of champagne presented to them — as the only ladies' team to enter and to finish — by Leeds United footballers Gordon McQueen and Byrom Stevenson, were some compensation for their Herculean efforts.



The Bearded 'Lady'.

THE PETER YARWOOD CUP

(Continued from Page 8)

The Glasgow team had travelled to Southampton late on the Friday night, were ready for an early-morning 'kick off' against Head Office on the Saturday, and were joined later by the Tilbury players. It would be invidious to mention individual performances, but a number of sporting points should be made in fairness to one or two personalities involved:-

Chris Summerfield's overwhelming victory over Glasgow's Alfie Gordon in the initial table tennis match owed nothing to the fact that her husband Keith was the official referee! (Chris, once ranked No. 3 in Southampton table tennis circles, plays for the Four T's Club; Keith is Hampshire No. 1).

Coach astray

It is NOT true that the coach driver who took competitors from the West Cliff Hall Hotel to a nearby sports centre for the five-a-side football, drove with his eyes shut. The fact that he took the wrong turning three times during a two-mile journey was sheer bad luck! It was bad luck, too, for the five cars (including mine) that followed him.

The fact that Mick Creed (Head Office) took off his trousers to compete in his table tennis draw against Janet McCallum (Glasgow) may have had nothing to do with his success, but it certainly caused a mad rush of girl spectators from the pool room to the table tennis room.

Head Office came first or second in all events, and won the five-a-side.

The fact that Glasgow excelled at darts and pool, winning eight out of their ten matches, must prove something, but we can't just think what!



A long pull-and a strong one-spurred on by supporters.

The Results in full

The full list of results (surnames only) was as follows:-

DARTS: Kirk (Head Office) beat Gordon (Glasgow); Mills (Glasgow) beat Summerfield (Head Office); Thompson (Head Office) beat McCaffery (Glasgow); McCallum (Glasgow) beat Creed (Head Office); McLaren (Glasgow) beat MacKay (Head Office); Mills beat O'Doherty (Tilbury); Gordon beat Hornigold (Tilbury); McCaffery beat Meredith (Tilbury); Bowman (Tilbury) beat McCallum; McLaren beat Hymas (Tilbury); Mackay beat Hymas; Kirk beat Hornigold; Meredith beat Thompson; Creed beat Bowman; O'Doherty beat Summerfield.

TABLE TENNIS: Summerfield beat Gordon; Mackay beat McCallum; Kirk beat McCaffery; Creed beat Mills; McLaren beat Thompson; Hornigold beat Mills; Thompson beat Bowman; O'Doherty beat McCallum; Meredith beat Gordon; Hymas beat

McCaffery; Creed beat Hornigold; McLaren beat Bowman; O'Doherty beat Mackay; Summerfield beat Meredith; Hymas beat Kirk.

POOL: Kirk beat McCallum; Mills beat Thompson; McLaren beat Summerfield; McCaffery beat Creed; Bowman beat Gordon; McCaffery beat O'Doherty; McLaren beat Hornigold; Summerfield beat Hornigold; Kirk beat Meredith; McCallum beat Meredith; Hymas beat Thompson; Mills beat Hymas; Mackay beat Bowman; Creed beat O'Doherty; Gordon beat Mackay.

FIVE-A-SIDE FOOTBALL: Head Office beat Glasgow 8-3; Head Office beat Tilbury 4-1; Tilbury beat Glasgow 5-2.

TUG-OF-WAR: Tilbury beat Head Office; Tilbury beat Glasgow; Glasgow beat Head Office.

FINAL POINTS: HEAD OFFICE 44, GLASGOW 41, TILBURY 35.

THE COATBRIDGE STORY

(Continued from Page 7)

There seems no end to his energies, either. He was one of those who recently made the long journey from Glasgow to Southampton to cheer on the Coatbridge Five in their challenge for the Peter Yarwood Cup, and in the normal way of things, when he's not on duty, you're likely to find him either shooting, hill climbing, enjoying the challenge of flat green bowling, or demonstrating his prowess as an archer — a 'bug' he caught from the boss's secretary, Margaret MacPherson (see Page 3).

Tom and his wife Isobel have two married daughters — Fiona, aged 27, and Morag (25), who lives with her husband and three children in Zambia.

Another sports enthusiast and 'founder member' of the Coatbridge team is Senior Commercial Assistant Ian Mills, who had a spell as Credit Controller after joining the company

Met at 10 — and still together . . .

as a commercial assistant in 1969, and before becoming head of the commercial department.

Darts (he plays for a local pub team), golf ('I reckon I'd have a handicap around 16 if ever I joined a club'), snooker and badminton all make claims on his spare time, as does reading ('I enjoy a good thriller') when he's at home.

Togetherness

Ian and his wife Linda, who have a three-year-old son, first met when both were aged ten-and



Obstacles that upset the Globetrotter applegart. Above: cheered on by spectators, the team makes a steep descent. Below: Just before getting stuck at Hangman's Hill.



THINGS THEY SAID

What is moral is what you feel good after and what is immoral is what you feel bad after: Ernest Hemingway.

Repartee is something we think of 24 hours too late: Mark Twain.

The God to whom little boys say their prayers has a face very like their mother's: James Barrie.

Some cause happiness wherever they go; others whenever they go: Oscar Wilde.

If parents would only realise how they bore their children!: Bernard Shaw.

Four join the 'baby league'

New members of the Head Office 'baby league' — in addition to Personnel's Jan Chandler, as reported on Page 2 — include Linda MacKenzie, formerly secretary to ACTS Director and Operations Manager Bill Campbell, who had a baby girl, Louisa, just before Christmas (her colleagues gave her a watch and necklace as leaving presents);

Christine Mathews, telephonist-receptionist who left last September and had a son, Ross, on Boxing Day (her colleagues gave her a baby's sterilisation unit); and

Wendy Ansell (formerly deputy punch room supervisor), and Susan Champion (Telex operator, Operations Department), who both left the company in January to await their first babies.

Peter steps up

CONGRATULATIONS to Peter Onslow-Free, European Ship Planner in the Operations Department since November, 1974, who took over as Deputy Manager at Southampton Terminal. Married with two children, Peter originally came from ACT, New Zealand, where he was Assistant Terminal Manager.



Janet McCallum gets the mail away.



Some of the commercial team to work in their office at Coatbridge. L to r: Alfie Gordon, Jackie Byrnes, Liz Sullivan, Roy Gordon, George Shanks and David Anderson.

in the same form at primary school. "When we went on to High School, we still went out together", says Ian, "and though we later went our separate ways for a year or so, we got together again — and have been together ever since".

Maybe one of the keys to the family spirit so obvious at Coatbridge is that manager Norman Niblock has, through the years, had much in common with those who work with him.

Like 'Fergie' Agnew, he began his career as a sea-going cadet at 16 — and stayed at sea for the next 17 or 18 years, rising to Chief Officer with the N.Z.S.Co.

Like Ian Mills, he married a 'home town' girl, from Liverpool. "Patricia became purserette with Canadian Pacific, so one day when we knew we were going to catch up with each other in Montreal, we decided to get married there" says Norman.

On course

Like Tom and many of the others at Coatbridge, he is, at heart, an outdoor person. "I do a lot of sailing, enjoy hill walking and camping — Patricia and I spend every holiday abroad under canvas — and have the dubious honour of being the worst fly-fisherman in Scotland", he says.

He also runs, at Coatbridge, a tight little ship that looks right on course — and likely to stay that way.

Smiles all round as Challenge Cup teams face last big battle



Competitors and spectators line up for the 'Contacts' cameraman just before the tug-of-war event in the Peter Yarwood Challenge Cup Final. A full report of the finals on Pages 8 and 9.

Wedding bells will ring for 4 this year

Expect to be almost deafened by the sound of wedding bells in Barking this year. 'Contacts' is happy to report that the following are booked to take marriage vows during 1978:-

Gary Hockley (of Exports) and **Elaine Taylor** (Imports) — looks like a two-way bargain to us!;

Martin Donnelly (transport assistant) and **Patricia Page**, a secretary;

Pauline McGeorge (transport costing) and **Dave Brooke**, an electrician; and **Jenny Ward** (Coding) and architect **Kevin Keddie**.

We wish them all well

CONGRATULATIONS also to a couple who have announced their engagement — Barking ACTS switchboard operator **Pat Hawkins** and **Clive Carty**, who worked for O.C.L. before leaving to set up his own business.

Silver Dinner

A large — and highly successful — dinner party was held to celebrate the silver wedding of Accounts Supervisor **Pat Skelton** and her husband.

Accounts clerk **Pat Cockel** chose a different way to celebrate a similar event. She and husband **Lawrie** disappeared for a holiday in the South of France.



A new gearbox and a propshaft were among the 21st birthday presents received by clerk/typist **Carole Court**. It seems that **Carole's** husband has a second (and very much second) love — their car!



Maria Dyster, of Barking Container Control, with new baby, **Anne-Marie**.



WEDDING BELLS LINE-UP — **Jenny and Martin** in the background, **Pauline and Elaine** in front. See first story.

Who's for the Grand Prix?

If you are a grand prix enthusiast, you can — thanks to Barking ACTS transport assistant **David Edmonds** — have yourself a ball in August.

David, a fire marshall at Brands Hatch, has organised a three-day trip to Zandvoort, Holland, that will allow motor-racing enthusiasts not only to enjoy their favourite sport, but to catch a glimpse of Holland at the same time.

A coach will leave Barking at 18.00 hours on Friday, August 25, arriving Zandvoort at 10.30 the next morning. After a free day there, the party will leave their hotel after breakfast on the Sunday (27th) for a day at the races, and, later, catch the 00.15 ferry to Dover.

Cost — £35, including everything but entry tickets to the races. No passports needed, identity cards can be supplied.

Anybody interested — whether at Barking or other ACTS centres — contact **David Edmonds**, Barking.

TERMINAL WINNER

We don't know how many dictionaries were out or how many lights were burning into the small hours, but thousands of words poured in when we asked readers how many words of four or more letters they could make out of the eight contained in **TERMINAL**.

No fewer than 176 of the words came from courier/clerk **Mrs. M. Osbaldeston**, of ACTS Leeds, who wins the promised prize of £4.

Runners-up — with no prizes but lots of glory — were **Harry Scammell**, of Head Office Mail Room, with 161 words; and **Sue Cresswell**, of Personnel, with 148.